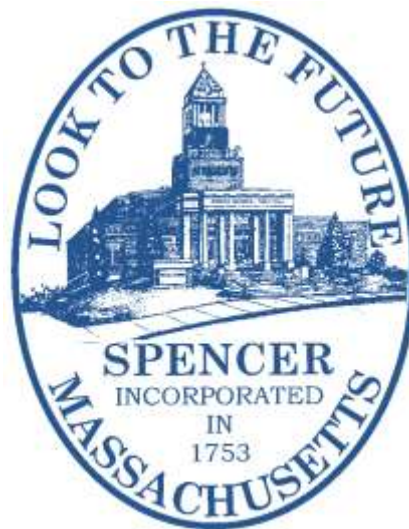


ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
**TOWN OFFICERS**  
OF THE  
**TOWN OF SPENCER**



**MASSACHUSETTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDING  
DECEMBER 31, 2015

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## MERITORIOUS PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

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The Meritorious Public Service Award was established in 2002 by the Board of Selectmen to honor members of the community who have demonstrated an unwavering and exemplary commitment to public service for the betterment of the Town of Spencer and its inhabitants. At the May 7, 2015 Annual Town Meeting, the award was proudly presented to:

*Marge LaPierre - 2015 Meritorious Service Award  
for her faithful service to the Council on Aging  
Serving from 1993 to 2015*



*Helen Cardin - Meritorious Service Award  
for her faithful service to the Council on Aging  
Serving from 1993 to 2015*





**View of the Seven Mile River Meadow from Spencer Water Department (photo by Steven Tyler)**

### **A BRIEF SKETCH OF SPENCER**

Rich in history, Spencer is located in central Worcester County, twenty minutes west of Worcester via Route 9, and about forty-five minutes from Springfield via Routes 49, 20, and the Massachusetts Turnpike.

Largely residential, Spencer has been a supplier of workers for nearly every industry in the greater Worcester area. Ease of travel to all sections of the county makes Spencer a desirable area in which to live. Route 31 gives access in the north to Holden, Fitchburg, and Leominster; in the south to Charlton, Oxford, and Southbridge. Route 49, connects Route 9 with Route 20, gives easy access to Sturbridge, Brimfield, Southbridge, the Mass. Turnpike, and Interstate 84 to Connecticut. Route 9 leads westerly through the Brookfields and Ware to the Amherst campus of the University of Massachusetts, and easterly to Worcester, Shrewsbury, Northborough, and Westborough.

### **BACKGROUND**

Settled in 1717 by Nathaniel Wood, Spencer was incorporated as a town in 1753, having been established as a district from a part of Leicester. Its name was assigned by Lieutenant Governor Spencer Phipps who signed the order establishing the district.

In 1784 Spencer was a major stopping place on the Old Boston Post Road's stage route between Boston and Hartford, and on to New York. Passengers changed stages in Spencer, as one coach would come from Boston and connect with one coming north from Hartford. Each stagecoach would turn around and return whence it came. Travelers often stopped off for the night at Jenk's Tavern in Spencer, as did George Washington in 1789.

The Howe family of Spencer did much to make the town famous in the annals of ingenious Americans. William Howe of Spencer developed a wooden truss bridge named for him, and his brother, Tyler Howe, patented a spring bed. Their nephew, Elias Howe, Jr., may well have eclipsed them when he invented the lockstitch sewing machine.



*Town of Spencer*  
Office of the Board of Selectmen  
&  
Town Administrator

Board of Selectmen:  
*Robert O. "Bo" Fritze, Jr*  
*Anthony D. Pepe*  
*John F. Stevens*  
*Chris L. Woodbury*  
*Gary E. Woodbury*

Town Administrator:  
*Adam D. Gaudette*  
[agaudette@spencerma.gov](mailto:agaudette@spencerma.gov)

Dear Citizens of Spencer:

On behalf of the Board of Selectmen, I offer my thanks to you for taking an ongoing interest in your Town. This Annual Town Report represents major activities of Town Government during the 2015 calendar year.

The Board of Selectmen is a five-member board of elected officials who serve as the Chief Policy Maker and Licensing Authority of the Town. Board members are elected for three-year staggered terms. Meetings are typically held three Mondays each month at 6:00 P.M in the McCourt Social Hall at Town Hall and all are open to the public. Since the meeting location and time can vary based on holidays and other events, I encourage you to visit the Town website at [www.spencerma.gov](http://www.spencerma.gov) for the most current information.

Over the past year the Board continued to set goals and priorities, reviewed budgetary expenditures, and established policies, all with the goal of making Spencer a great place to call home.

Our most significant undertaking in 2015 was to begin the process of improving and maintaining the condition of our roads. With many of our roads in poor condition, a Comprehensive Roads Improvement Project was launched with the goal of restoring our roads and developing a plan for ongoing maintenance. Public meetings were held to present findings on the condition of the roads and to discuss various funding scenarios to bring our roads up to acceptable levels. The Financial Management Planning Committee (FMPC), along with Administrator Gaudette and U & F Superintendent Tyler, continue to work diligently to gather and present detailed information to the public to ensure our residents are well informed. An introductory presentation was provided to the voters at the November Special Town Meeting and as this project moved forward, public hearings were held and will continue to take place in preparation for a Debt Exclusion Question at the Annual Town Meeting on May 5, 2016.

The Town made great strides when voters approved the former Maple Street School as the new Senior Center location at November Special Town Meeting. After ongoing discussions over the past several years on finding a permanent home for our Seniors, we were pleased to see the new Center officially open in the fall.

In an effort to search for creative ways to increase the Town's revenue structure, a Building & Property Reuse Advisory Committee was formed and charged with reviewing reuse options for vacant Town-owned buildings and a Landfill Solar Development Advisory Committee was established to pursue a solar farm at the Landfill to bring in additional revenue.

The Board worked with the Administrator on a variety of other matters in 2015, including the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Town has received funding from this Grant over multiple years resulting in a downtown property assessment, housing rehabilitation, new and improved infrastructure of sidewalks, water, sewer, and drainage on Mechanic Street, and planning work for the design of improvements to Chestnut Street. A new Grant Application is being pursued for 2016 to continue these efforts.

On behalf of the Board, I wish to express my sincere thanks to the many volunteers in Town and to Administrator Gaudette and the Town employees that help to make Spencer a great place to live as we move forward in 2016.

Respectfully,

*Gary E. Woodbury*

Gary E. Woodbury  
Chairman

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## FEDERAL, STATE & COUNTY OFFICIALS

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### UNITED STATES SENATORS

Edward J. Markey of Malden

Elizabeth A. Warren of Cambridge

### REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS

Second District

James P. McGovern of Worcester

### COUNCILLOR

Seventh District

Jennie L. Caissie of Oxford

### SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT

Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire & Middlesex District

Anne M. Gobi of Spencer

### REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT

Fifth Worcester District – Spencer - Pcts. 2, 3 & 4

Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr. of Spencer

Sixth Worcester District – Spencer - Pct. 1

Peter J. Durant of Spencer

### DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Middle District

Joseph D. Early, Jr. of Worcester

### CLERK OF COURTS

Dennis P. McManus of Worcester

### REGISTER OF DEEDS

Anthony J. Vigliotti of Worcester

### REGISTER OF PROBATE

Stephanie K. Fattman of Webster

### SHERIFF

Lewis G. Evangelidis of Holden



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## ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS & COMMISSIONERS

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	Term Expires
<b>MODERATOR</b>	
Peter J. Adams	2016
<b>SELECTMEN</b>	
John F. Stevens	2018
Anthony D. Pepe	2016
Gary E. Woodbury	2016
Robert (Bo) O. Fritze, Jr.	2017
Christopher L. Woodbury	2017
<b>TOWN CLERK</b>	
Laura J. Torti	2018
<b>TREASURER/COLLECTOR</b>	
Susan L. Lacaire	2017
<b>ASSESSORS</b>	
Jeremey L. Snow	2016
Maureen A. Hatch	2017
David R. Derosier	2018

### SPENCER-EAST BROOKFIELD REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE

#### Spencer Representatives:

Kurt A. Nordquist	(term ended May 2015)	2015
Christopher J. King	(term ended May 2015)	2015
Vincent P. Cloutier		2016
Kevin A. Hayes		2016
Angela Knapton		2017
James R. St. Peter, Jr.		2018
Wendy, Pelchat		2018

#### East Brookfield Representatives:

Michael Ethier	2017
Heather Messier	2018

### SOUTHERN WORCESTER COUNTY REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Kenneth R. Wheeler	2016
Robert L. Zukowski	2017

**WATER COMMISSIONERS**

Robert O. Fritze, Jr.	2018
Norman C. Letendre, Jr.	2017
David R. O'Coin	2016

**PARK COMMISSIONERS**

Martin A. German, Jr.	2016
William R. Shemeth, III	2017
Anthony F. Toscano	2018

**LIBRARY TRUSTEES**

Lynn Dobson	2018
Mary Anne Slack	2016
Maryanne Gleason	2017

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

Lynda G. Laine	2015
Rodney L. Foisy	2016
Daniel C. Shields	2017
Robert James Bradshaw Jr.	2018

**TREE WARDEN**

Raymond I. Holmes, Jr.	2017
------------------------	------

**HOUSING AUTHORITY**

Donna M Flannery	2016
Richard J. Leveillee	2017
Jarrett A. Morin	2017
Roger L. Gaudette	2018

**SEWER COMMISSIONERS**

Francis X. White	2018
Michael J. Mercadante	2016
Lawrence H. Dufault	2017

**CONSTABLES**

Arthur C. Tatro	2016
James F. Cervi	2016
Lee D. Jarvis	2016

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## APPOINTED TOWN OFFICES COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

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### **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR**

Adam D. Gaudette 2019

### **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

Brenda Savoie

### **ACCOUNTANT**

Alaine Boucher 2016

### **PRINCIPAL ASSESSOR**

Mary C. Williams (retired July 30, 2015)

Linda L. Leblanc

### **TOWN COUNSEL**

Stanley L. Weinberg 2016

### **AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION (Established 2013)**

No official membership

### **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES COORDINATOR**

William A. Klansek – Physical Plant

### **ANIMAL CONTROL AND INSPECTION OFFICERS**

Peter F. Gaucher (resigned 11/15/15)

Carol A. Gaucher (resigned 11/15/15)

Joelyn Durgin 2016

Lynne Porretti (Alternate) 2016

### **ASSISTANT COLLECTOR/TREASURER**

Rebecca Pedone

### **ASSISTANT CONSTABLE (3yr term)**

Richard A. Lapierre 2018

### **ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK**

Brynn Johnson

### **BUILDING COMMISSIONER/Zoning Enforcement Officer (1yr term)**

William A. Klansek 2016

Robert W. Lanciani, Alt. Bldg. Insp. 2016

William Cassanelli, Alt. Bldg. Insp. 2016

### **BURNCOAT POND WATERSHED DISTRICT MANAGEMENT**

**SPENCER REPRESENTATIVE (1yr term)**

John T. Gagnon	2016
----------------	------

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING (1yr term regular, citizens at large 3yr term)**

Finance Committee – Nancy E. Herholz	2016
Planning Board – Shirley Shiver (resigned 10/19/15)	2016
Citizens at Large – Richard Hebson	2016
Select Board - Anthony D. Pepe	2016
Town Accountant – Alaine Boucher, Ex-Officio	2016
Citizen at large -Aaron Keyes	2016
Planning Board-Jonathan Viner	2016

**CELEBRATIONS COMMITTEE (1yr term)**

Donald R Berthiaume, Jr.	2016
Wendy S. Berthiaume	2015
David Darrin	2016
Richard A. Lapierre	2015
Kristin Lapierre	2015
Dale Davies	2016
Donna Cutler	2016

**CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (1yr term)**

Shirley Shriver (Planning Board Rep.)	2016
Gary E. Woodbury (Alternate)	2016
Steven Tyler (Selectboard Rep.)	2016

**CHARITABLE NEEDS (3yr term 5 members)**

Barbara E. Grusell	2018
Ann M. Goodrow (removed/moved from town)	2015
Paul Lamontagne	2018
Paulette LeBlanc	2016
David L. Ingalls	2017
Linda Gould	2018

**CHIEF OF POLICE**

David B. Darrin	1/31/2016
-----------------	-----------

**COMMISSIONERS OF OLD CEMETERY (3yr term 3 members)**

Edward P. Foresteire	Permanent
Anne M. Snow	2018
Danielle Gebo	2018

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION (3yr term 7 members)**

Eric Peterson (Resigned May 28, 2015)	2015
Margaret Emerson	2018
Mary E. McLaughlin	2016
Warren B. Snow	2017
Dana G. Reed	2017
James Bouley Jr.	2017

John Haverty	2017
Brian Graeff	2018

**CONTRACT COMPLIANCE OFFICER**

Adam D. Gaudette	2016
------------------	------

**COUNCIL ON AGING (3yr term 7-11 members)**

Marjorie Lapierre	2015
Ruth F. King	2015
Christine E. Alessandro	2018
James W. Letendre	2018
Janet Goff	2016
Robert Cirba (resigned 5/4/2015)	2016
Christine Mancini	2016
Susan Arsenault	2017
Patricia M. Corson	2017
Joan Houston, Alternate	2016
Diane Johnson	2016
Sheila Phoenix	2016

**CULTURAL COUNCIL (3yr term 9 members)**

Joan Eccleston	2018
Linda Stanley*	2018
Louise Small*	2018
Phyllis Lamontagne	2015
Deborah Kirk*	2015
Deborah Bailey	2017
Nicole Boucher	2017
Cheryl Tutlis	2018
Elizabeth Small	2018
Rachel Faugno	2018
Diane Johnson	2018
(*2 <sup>nd</sup> consecutive term)	

**DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT AND INSPECTIONAL SERVICES**

Lee D. Jarvis (Acting)

**DIRECTOR OF OFFICE OF FINANCE**

Alaine M. Boucher	2016
-------------------	------

**DISABILITY COMMISSION (3yr term 5 members)**

Jeanne M. Desmarais	2018
William R. Shemeth, III	2016
Anne M. Snow	2017
Gary E. Woodbury	2018

**DISASTER ANIMALS RESPONSE TEAM**

VACANT

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Joseph M. Smith	2016
(5 Additional Members to be sworn-in in 2016)	

**EEO OFFICER**

Adam D. Gaudette	2016
------------------	------

**SPENCER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (SEMA)**

Robert Parsons (Fire Chief), Director	9/30/2017
Sandra J. Fritze, Deputy	2016

**FAIR HOUSING (1yr term 3 members 2 alternates)**

3 Vacancies  
2 Alt. Vacancies

**FENCE VIEWER (1yr term)**

Robert H. Dewan	2016
-----------------	------

**FINANCE COMMITTEE (3yr term 11 members)**

Christopher P. Bowen	2018
Mary E. Braney	2018
Nancy Herholz	2018
Thomas F. Parker	2018
Paul E. McLaughlin	2016
Christopher T. Kandel	2016
Julie M. Parenteau (resigned October 7, 2015)	2016
Nancy Tame	2016
William J. Wall, Jr.	2017
Robbin M.C. Joyce	2017
John P. Desmarais, Sr. (resigned September 17, 2015)	2017
Peter Adams (Ex Officio)	

**FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE (1yr term 5 members)**

Richard Hebson	(Capital Committee)	2016
John Stevens	(Selectmen)	2016
Anthony D. Pepe	(Selectmen)	2016
Paul McLaughlin	(Finance Committee)	2016
Thomas Parker	(Finance Committee)	2016

**FIRE CHIEF**

Robert P. Parsons, Fire Chief	9/30/2017
Robert P. Parsons, Forest Fire Warden	2016
William C. Locke, Deputy Forest Fire Warden	2016

**HARBORMASTER (1yr term)**

David B. Darrin, Police Chief	2016
-------------------------------	------

**HAZARDOUS WASTE COORDINATOR (1yr term)**

Robert P. Parsons	2016
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**HEALTH AGENT**

Lee D. Jarvis

**HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE (1yr term)**

Russell B. Snow	2016
-----------------	------

Steven J. Tyler	2016
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**HISTORICAL COMMISSION (3yr term 7 members)**

Wilfred W. Breault (removed, moved from town)	2015
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Anna Marie Hughes (honorary member, moved from town)	2016
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J. Richard Sherman, Jr.	2016
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Helen Barnes (resigned November 22, 2015)	2015
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Jean M. Desmarais	2017
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Francis T. Lochner	2017
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Danielle Gebo (resigned July 27, 2015)	2015
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**HUMAN RESOURCES AND BENEFITS COORDINATOR**

Sarah Gruhin

**INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCING AUTHORITY (5yr term 5 members)**

Alfred R. Letendre	2016
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John J. Jackson	2017
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**INSECT AND PEST CONTROL INSPECTOR (1yr term)**

Raymond I. Holmes, Jr.	2016
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**INSPECTOR OF GAS PIPING & APPLIANCES (1yr term)**

James R. Bergeron	2016
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Robert F. Wall, Alt.	2016
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**INSURANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (1yr term 8 members)**

Mary Barrell (Retiree)	2016
------------------------	------

Mary Baker Wood (Personnel Bylaw)	2016
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Kevin Simonovitch (Highway)	2016
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Todd LaPorte (Police)	2015
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Steven J. Tyler (Contract)	2016
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Lisa Daoust (Clerical)	2016
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Laura Torti (Elected)	2016
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Holly M. Collette (Dispatchers)	2016
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Stephanie Ford (Retiree Term Exp. 6/30/15)	2015
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**LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (1yr term 10 members)**

David B. Darrin (Police)	2016
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Sandra Fritze, SEMA	2016
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Lee D. Jarvis (Board of Health)	2015
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Robert P. Parsons (Fire)	2016
--------------------------	------

Mark R. Robidoux (Sewer)	2016
--------------------------	------

Gary D. Suter (Ambulance)	2015
Lawrence Smith(Planning Board)	2016
Steven J. Tyler(U&F)	2016
Margaret Emerson (Conservation)	2016
Nadine Tracy Crowe (Supt. of Schools)	2015
Adam D. Gaudette, Ex. Officio	2016
Darwin Irish (FlexCon	2016

**MUNICIPAL HEARINGS OFFICER/ PARKING CLERK**

Kurt A. Nordquist	2016
-------------------	------

**MUNICIPAL LIAISON TO STATE ETHICS COMMISSION**

Adam D. Gaudette	2016
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**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION (Appointed)  
(3yr term 4 members)**

Lynne D. Porretti	2016
Mark Lammi	2016
Robert Churchey	2017
Corinne Kennedy	2018

**PERSONNEL BOARD (Dissolved at May 7, 2015 Annual Town Meeting)**

Kathleen M. Golden	2016
Linda Beardsley	2016

**PLANNING BOARD (3yr term, 5 members 1 alternate)**

Shirley A. Shiver	2018
Mary E. Stolarczyk (resigned 10/22/2014)	2016
Maria H. C. Reed	2016
Robert J. Ceppi	2016
James Whalen (resigned 9/13/15)	2018
Jonathan Viner	2017

**PUBLIC WEIGHER (1yr term)**

Karen Hubacz-Kiley	2016
--------------------	------

**PLUMBING INSPECTOR (1yr term)**

Robert Wall	2016
James Bergeron, Alt.	2016

**QUABOAG VALLEY BUS. ASST. COORD (1yr term)**

John F. Stevens	2016
-----------------	------

**REGISTRARS OF VOTERS (3yr term, 3 Registrars 1 Clerk)**

Eleanor F. O'Connor	3/31/2017
Elizabeth T. McPherson	3/31/2018
Patricia Woods	3/31/2016
Laura J. Torti, Town Clerk	

**SAFETY OFFICER (1yr term)**



David B. Darrin, Police Chief	2016
<b>SCM ELDERBUS REPRESENTATIVE (1yr term)</b> Pamela Woodbury	2016
<b>SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES (1yr term)</b> John A. Biancheria	2016
<b>SENIOR CENTER PROGRAM DIRECTOR/COORDINATOR</b> Pamela Woodbury	
<b>SEXUAL HARASSMENT COMPLAINT OFFICER (1yr term)</b> Adam D. Gaudette	2016
<b>SUGDEN BLOCK SALE COMMITTEE (Dissolved January 25, 2016 by Board of Selectmen)</b> Mary Baker-Wood Michelle Buck Lynn Dobson Carol McPherson Anthony Pepe Laura Torti	
<b>SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS</b> Dr. Edward M. Malvey (interim) Dr. N. Tracy Crowe (Appointed November 17, 2014)	
<b>TAX TITLE CUSTODIAN (1yr term)</b> Susan L. Lacaire	2016
<b>TOWN PLANNER</b> Michelle R. Buck (Resigned June 30, 2015) Lawrence Smith, Interim Planner	2015 2016
<b>TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ADVISORY GROUP (1yr term)</b> William J. Lehtola	2016
<b>TRANSPORTATION REPRESENTATIVE (1yr term)</b> William J. Lehtola	2016
<b>CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER (1yr term)</b> Adam D. Gaudette	2016
<b>UTILITIES &amp; HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT</b> Steven J. Tyler	2017
<b>VETERANS SERVICES DIRECTOR/AGENT &amp; VETERANS GRAVES REGISTRATION OFFICER (1yr term)</b> Timothy Gagnon	2016
<b>ISAAC PROUTY PARK VETERANS MEMORIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE</b>	

**(1 Selectman, 1 Parks & Rec Commissioner, 1 American Legion Member, U&F Supt., 3 Exchange Club Members)**

Gary Herl	2016
Albert Shedyak	2015
Peter J. Adams	2015
Anthony D. Pepe, Jr.	2015
Anthony F. Toscano	2015
Robert Churchey	2016
Steven J. Tyler	2016
Arnold Arsenault	2016
Patrick George	2016
Scott Conner	2016

**WIRING INSPECTOR (1yr term)**

Norman D. Bassett	2016
Michael H. Sweet, Alt.	2016

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS (3yr term 3 members 2 alternates)**

Allan P. Collette	2018
Delores Kresco	2016
Albert W. Drexler (resigned 4/27/2015)	2017
C. Robert Emerson	2017
Vacant alternate	

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## **REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK**

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The Office of the Town Clerk serves as a direct link between the residents of Spencer and our local government. Town Clerk duties include serving as the Chief Elections Official in accordance with Mass General Law and as the Recording Officer for the Town recording and certifying all official actions of the Town including Town Meeting legislation and appropriations, Planning and Zoning Board decisions, and the votes and minutes of Elections and Town Meetings. The Clerk's Office is responsible for the maintenance, disposition and preservation of municipal archival records. The Town Clerk's Office provides certified copies of vital records and can assist with genealogical research as well as providing marriage intentions and certificates. The Office also handles the licensing of all dogs to ensure the health and safety of the public.

The Town Clerk's Office is responsible for the Annual Census which not only provides important statistical and demographic information but also is used to maintain active voter and street lists, and provides information to the State for the compilation of the Prospective Juror File Status Report which lists all potential jury candidates and is available at the Town Hall.

2015 was a busy year at the Town Clerk's Office. Our dog licensing program was updated to reflect the changes in the state Animal Control laws and we began working with the Worcester Housing Court as the East Brookfield court house no longer addresses animal control issues. Assistant Town Clerk Brynn Johnson worked closely with the Worcester Clerk Magistrate and the Spencer Police Dept. to streamline an outdated dog licensing and enforcement process.

2015 also saw the completion of the updated online registration process for death certificates and burial permits via the state Office of Vital Records Registry.

The office is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Wednesday with evening hours by appointment.

Laura J. Torti, Town Clerk

<b>2015 Revenue Report</b>				
Marriage Intentions	\$855.00		Copies	\$53.40
Births	\$1890.00		Misc.	\$128.00
Deaths	\$2002.00		Business List	\$0.00
Marriage Certificates	\$1106.00		Certifications	\$2.00
Street Listings	\$35.00		Dog Tag Replacement	\$0.00
Bylaw Booklets	\$70.00		Research	\$0.00
Auction/Raffle Permits	\$180.00		Pole Locations	\$60.00
WRTA Bus Passes	\$264.00		Postage	\$8.95
Notary	\$238.25		Dog License	\$17,365.00
Business Certificates	\$3200.00		Online Dog License	\$4265.00
Dog License Late Fees	\$6695.00		Online Vital Records	\$807.00
Gas Storage	\$580.00		Credit Card Dog License	\$906.00
Extracts	\$0.00		Credit Card Vital Records	\$344.25
<b>Total Revenue</b>				<b>\$41,054.85</b>

**Board of Registrars Report  
Voter Total Sheet as of 12/31/2015**

Ward	Precinct	D	H	J	K	L	O	Q	R	T	U	Z	CC	Grand Totals
0	1	458		4		7			207	1	1143	1	3	1824
	2	395	1	1		5			239		1056		17	1714
	3	440		5		2	1	1	256	2	1207		14	1928
	4	445		5	1	6			237		1159		11	1864
Grand Totals		<b>1738</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>939</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4565</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>7330</b>

**All Voters**

A Conservative	H We the People	P Prohibition	W Veteran Party America
B Natural Law Party	J Green Rainbow	Q American Independent	X Pirate
C New World Council	K Constitution Party	R Republican	Y World Citizens Party
D Democrat	L Libertarian	S Socialist	Z Working Families
E Reform	M Timsiz Not Down	T Inter 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party	CC United Independent Party
F Rainbow Coalition	N New Alliance	U Unenrolled	
G Green Party USA	O MA Independent Party	V America First Party	

## VITAL STATISTICS

	Births	Marriages	Deaths
2005	136	85	84
2006	113	81	110
2007	132	93	83
2008	102	73	97
2009	120	88	88
2010	114	77	77
2011	139	71	88
2012	114	77	120
2013	121	76	108
2014	114	59	106
2015*	113	59	116

\*As of printing deadline

**Town of Spencer  
Annual Town Meeting  
May 7, 2015  
Memorial Town Hall**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:11 p.m. by Moderator, Peter J. Adams following the announcement of a quorum by Registrar Elizabeth McPherson.

The Reading of the Return of the Warrant was waived. The meeting was posted in accordance with the law. A moment of silence was observed in honor of those residents who had passed away in the past year. The Moderator led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem was sung by Charlton Police Chief James Pervier.

Moderator Peter J. Adams shared the following history:

*“After the onset of the Revolutionary War in 1775, the Continental Congress urged each of the colonies to adopt constitutions. Dutifully, each colony proceeded to adopt and approve governmental charters, except for Massachusetts, which was the last to adopt a constitution. In our state, a proposed constitution for the State of Massachusetts Bay as drafted by the General Court was rejected statewide because of the failure to provide a declaration of individual rights and a separation of powers. On May 4, 1778, adjourned to May 20<sup>th</sup>, the Spencer Town Meeting unanimously rejected the proposed charter and in so doing, helped set the stage in the 80 year drama of reason, hatred and blood which was the death of slavery in America.*

*Following the 1779 rejection, the General Court appointed a committee to draft a further constitution to be submitted to the towns. The new constitution, crafted singlehandedly by John Adams, first and foremost declared in Article 1 of the Rights of the Inhabitants of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts the bedrock principle that ‘All men are born free and equal, have natural essential and unalienable rights; among which may be reckoned the right of enjoying and defending their lives and liberties; that of acquiring, possessing and protecting property;...that of seeking and obtaining safety and happiness.’ On May 22, 1780, your forebears convened at Town Meeting unanimously approving this most basic expression of our freedoms, and by October, 1780, it was the law of the land.*

*In 1781, Elizabeth Freeman, a black slave in Great Barrington sued her master for her freedom on the basis of Article 1. The jury agreed that slavery was inconsistent with the Massachusetts constitution and awarded her freedom. Later, another black slave, Quock Walker, successfully brought suit under Article 1 that slavery was false imprisonment. As a result, slavery, standing without legal protection, was effectively abolished in the Commonwealth.*

*In the end, thought the first was last, the last was to be first. Even though Massachusetts and the men of this town were the first to offer their lives, fortunes and sacred honor for the right to be free, they were the last to adopt a constitution. But, the principles of government ultimately approved in this town 235 years ago this month, our State Constitution, which first declared the equality of all people, became the model for the United States Constitution, and remains the oldest functioning written constitution in continuous effect in the world.”*

The Moderator thanked Spencer Cable Access for filming the Annual Town Meeting.

The Moderator introduced himself, the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator, Town Counsel and Town Clerk. Mary Braney, Chair of the Finance Committee, introduced those members of the Committee present.

The Meritorious Service Award was presented by Board of Selectmen Anthony Pepe and Robert Fritze to Marjorie LaPierre and Helen Cardin for their many years of service on the Council on Aging.

The Moderator informed the attendees that the meeting would follow the procedures outlined in “Town Meeting Time, A Handbook of Parliamentary Law.”

The following articles were acted upon:

**Article 1: The Moderator Declared a Majority Vote** to amend its Fiscal Year 2015 Operating Budget by appropriating the sum of Four Hundred Sixteen Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$416,000.00) to the following various accounts to cover additional expenses and further to transfer said sum from previously certified and available Free Cash to meet said appropriation:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Police Department Salaries & Wages	11210-51000	\$ 25,000.00
Police Department Expenses	11210-57000	\$ 6,000.00
Fire Department Salaries & Wages	11220-57000	\$ 10,000.00
Snow & Ice Salaries & Wages	11423-51000	\$30,000.00
Snow & Ice Expenses	11423-57000	\$320,000.00
Transfer Station Expenses	11433-57000	\$ 15,000.00
Veterans Services Expenses	11543-57000	\$ 10,000.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$416,000.00</b>

**Article 2: The Moderator Declared a Majority Vote** to transfer the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$25,000.00) from FY2015 Account #11135-57000 (Town Accountant Expenses) to FY2015 Account #11135-51000 (Town Accountant Salaries & Wages).

**Article 3: The Moderator Declared a Majority Vote** to appropriate the sum of Eight Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$8,000.00) for the Sick Leave Buy Back Fund (Account #083-83000-39800) and to meet said appropriation by transferring from previously certified and available Free Cash.

**Article 4: The Moderator Declared a Majority Vote** to appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$20,000.00) for the FY2015 Account #20000-51000 (Sewer Department Salaries & Wages) and to meet said appropriation by transferring from previously certified and available Retained Earnings.

**Article 5: The Moderator Declared a Majority Vote** to approve a consent agenda consisting of the following actions, or take any action relating thereto. Such items may be voted as a block, or singly, or in any combination but however voted, will be treated for accounting and legislative purposes as if each item voted were voted as a separate article.

- A. Receive, in writing, the reports of the Town Officers and Committees.
- B. Authorize the Planning Board to establish a revolving fund in conformity with Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2 of the Massachusetts General Laws for the following purposes and subject to the following conditions:
  - 1. to be the depository for monies received from ANR Fees and Subdivision Fees;
  - 2. to fund the administrative costs of the Planning Board;
  - 3. to limit the total amount to be expended from the fund in Fiscal Year 2016 at Five Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$5,000.00); and
  - 4. to have the Planning Board be the only authority empowered to expend monies from this fund.

- C. Authorize the establishment of a revolving fund for the Sugden Block in conformity with Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2 of the Massachusetts General Laws, for the following purposes and subject to the following conditions:
1. to be the depository for receipts of rentals and charges from the Sugden Block;
  2. to pay expenses associated with the operation of the Sugden Block;
  3. to limit the total amount to be expended from the fund in Fiscal Year 2016 at Eighty-One Thousand, Eight Hundred Dollars and No Cents (\$81,800.00); and
  4. to have the Town Administrator be the only authority empowered to expend monies from this fund.
- D. Authorize the Office of Development and Inspectional Services (ODIS) to establish a revolving fund in conformity with Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2 of the Massachusetts General Laws, for the following purposes and subject to the following conditions:
1. to be the depository for 80% of the fees collected for electrical permits;
  2. to compensate the Wiring Inspector;
  3. to limit the total amount to be expended from the fund in Fiscal Year 2016 at Forty-Five Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$45,000.00); and
  4. to have the Director of the Office, subject to the approval of the Town Administrator, be the only authority empowered to expend monies from this fund.
- E. Authorize the Parks and Recreation Commission to establish a revolving fund in conformity with Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2 of the Massachusetts General Laws, for the following purposes and subject to the following conditions:
1. to be the depository for monies received for park rentals, sticker fees, and fees charged for program offerings;
  2. to be used to fund the costs of part-time personnel, utilities, supplies, and expenses related to program offerings;
  3. to limit the total amount to be expended from the fund in Fiscal Year 2016 at Ninety Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$90,000.00); and
  4. to have the Parks and Recreation Commission be the only authority empowered to expend monies from this fund.
- F. Authorize the Board of Selectmen to establish a Celebrations Revolving Fund in conformity with Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2 of the Massachusetts General Laws, for the following purposes and subject to the following conditions:
1. to be the depository for donations, gifts and fees collected for community celebrations, including, but not limited to, the Fourth of July (Independence Day), Halloween, and Christmas;
  2. to limit the total amount to be expended from the fund in Fiscal Year 2016 at Fifty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$50,000.00); and
  3. to have the Town Administrator, subject to the approval of the Board of Selectmen, be the only authority empowered to expend monies from this fund.
- G. Authorize the Board of Selectmen to establish a Council on Aging Revolving Fund in conformity with Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2 of the Massachusetts General Laws, for the following purposes and subject to the following conditions:
1. to be the depository for donations, gifts and fees collected for Council on Aging programs;



2. to limit the total amount to be expended from the fund in Fiscal Year 2016 at Ten Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$10,000.00); and
  3. to have the Council on Aging be the only authority empowered to expend monies from this fund.
- H. Authorize the Board of Selectmen to establish a Stormwater Management Revolving Fund in conformity with Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2 of the Massachusetts General Laws, for the following purposes and subject to the following conditions:
1. to be the depository for stormwater fees and fines collected to be used for Stormwater Management (MS4) related programs;
  2. to limit the total amount to be expended from the fund in Fiscal Year 2016 at One Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$100,000.00); and
  3. to have the Town Administrator be the only authority empowered to expend monies from this fund.
- I. Appropriate the sum of money received or to be received from the Chapter 90 State Aid to Highways Program to be expended for construction and/or maintenance upon any state approved road, or for any other authorized purpose, for Fiscal Year 2016, with such funds to be reimbursed 100% from such Program.
- J. Authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, accept, and expend the following funds:  
Community Development Block Grant funds;  
Community Innovation Challenge Grant funds;  
District Local Technical Assistance Grant funds; and  
Other State and Federal grant-in-aid assistance, as appropriate and necessary.
- K. Appropriate the sum of 100% of all fines, penalties, and assessments received in Fiscal Year 2016 as payment under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 148A, as amended by Chapter 304 of the Acts of 2004, to an account entitled "Building and Fire Code Enforcement Fines."
- L. Appropriate the sum of 50% of all monies received in Fiscal Year 2016 as payment for the so-called "products," "conveyance," "roll-back" or other such tax or payment, other than real estate taxes and related payments-in-lieu-of-taxes, under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter(s) 61, 61A, and 61B to the Land Acquisition Stabilization Fund and the sum of 100% of all monies received from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as payments from the Forest Products Trust Fund to the Land Acquisition Stabilization Fund.
- M. Authorize the Town Treasurer/Collector to enter into a compensating balance agreement(s) for Fiscal Year 2016 pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53F, and further vote to authorize the Town Treasurer/Collector to borrow such sums of money as he/she may deem necessary, with the consent of the Finance Committee, in anticipation of revenue and/or reimbursements and to issue notes of the Town payable thereof in accordance with applicable law.
- N. Authorize the Board of Selectmen, in conformance with Section 11(m) of the Spencer Governmental Act and MGL c. 40, Section 4, to enter into and negotiate the terms thereof, all contracts for the exercise of its corporate powers.

**Article 6: Majority voted**, as a block, to fix or maintain the salaries of the elected officials for Fiscal Year 2016 as follows:

Board of Selectmen	\$	0.00	Yearly
Moderator	\$	200.00	Yearly

Board of Assessors	\$ 950.00	Yearly
Town Treasurer/Collector	\$ 65,687.00	Yearly
Town Clerk	\$ 63,424.00	Yearly
Water Commissioners	\$ 725.00	Yearly
Sewer Commissioners	\$ 725.00	Yearly
Board of Health	\$ 725.00	Yearly

**Article 7: The Moderator Declared a Majority Vote**, as a block, to amend the Personnel Bylaws by substituting the following new compensation schedule, Section 2-Schedules B, C, and D:

(Informational Note: These rates all generally go up 2.0%)

### **Schedule B**

	I	II	III	IV	V
Compensation Grade S-2	\$392.27	\$406.57	\$437.76	\$469.10	\$500.34
Compensation Grade S-3	\$437.76	\$469.10	\$500.34	\$531.62	\$564.41
Compensation Grade S-4	\$500.34	\$531.62	\$564.41	\$594.20	\$625.40
Compensation Grade S-5	\$564.41	\$594.20	\$625.40	\$656.79	\$687.91
Compensation Grade S-6	\$625.40	\$656.79	\$687.91	\$718.37	\$766.18
Compensation Grade S-7	\$687.91	\$718.37	\$766.18	\$813.05	\$860.02
Compensation Grade S-8	\$766.18	\$813.05	\$860.02	\$906.93	\$953.87
Compensation Grade S-9	\$860.02	\$906.93	\$953.87	\$996.37	\$1,055.78
Compensation Grade S-9A	\$906.93	\$955.11	\$1,000.10	\$1,055.78	\$1,115.88
Compensation Grade S-10	\$953.87	\$996.37	\$1,055.78	\$1,113.75	\$1,175.01
Compensation Grade S-10A	\$1,008.38	\$1,053.39	\$1,115.99	\$1,177.30	\$1,242.03
Compensation Grade S-11	\$1,055.78	\$1,113.75	\$1,175.01	\$1,239.65	\$1,308.61
Compensation Grade S-12	\$1,175.01	\$1,239.65	\$1,308.61	\$1,353.26	\$1,455.60
Compensation Grade S-13	\$1,308.61	\$1,353.26	\$1,455.60	\$1,535.64	\$1,620.87
Compensation Grade S-14	\$1,455.60	\$1,535.64	\$1,620.87	\$1,710.01	\$1,804.93

### **Schedule C**

Administrative Intern / Co-op Student	\$9.35	hourly
Animal Control & Inspection Officer	\$12,745.00	yearly
Animal Control & Inspection Officer-Alternate	\$695.00	yearly
COA Director	\$18.35	hourly
Election Inspectors	\$10.55	hourly
Election Wardens / Clerks	\$11.65	hourly
Engineering Aide	\$11.60	hourly
Facilities Maintenance Worker	\$12.50	hourly
Finance Committee Clerk	\$402.00	yearly
Fluoride Coordinator	\$12.40	hourly
Gas Inspector	\$3,900.00	yearly
Laborer (Seasonal/Intermittent)	\$11.60	hourly
Library Childhood Literacy Coordinator	\$110.40	weekly
Library Page	\$9.35	hourly

Light Equipment Operator (LEO) - Seasonal	\$17.95	hourly
Parks & Rec Adven. Prog. Director	\$17.70	hourly
Parks & Rec Adven. Prog. Head Counselor	\$12.70	hourly
Parks & Rec Adven. Prog. Counselor	\$10.45	hourly
Parks & Rec Waterfront Director	\$16.10	hourly
Parks & Rec Water Safety Instructor	\$14.40	hourly
Parks & Rec Lifeguard	\$12.70	hourly
Parks & Rec Parking Attendant	\$9.00	hourly
Parks & Rec Chair	\$413.30	yearly
Parks & Rec Clerk	\$413.30	yearly
Planning Board	\$1,060.00	yearly
Planning Board - Alternate	\$498.50	yearly
Plumbing Inspector	\$5,256.00	yearly
Police Dispatcher	\$15.80	hourly
Registrars	\$1,268.50	yearly
Sealer of Weights & Measures	\$4,370.50	yearly
SEMA, Director of Operations	\$2,281.75	yearly
SFD Deputy Chief	\$8,863.80	yearly
SFD Captain	\$18.65	hourly
SFD Lieutenant	\$17.30	hourly
SFD Fire Science Instructor	\$20.30	hourly
SFD Firefighter (over 10 years)	\$15.80	hourly
SFD Firefighter (5-10 years)	\$14.35	hourly
SFD Firefighter (under 5 years)	\$13.00	hourly
SFD Firefighter (sub)	\$9.75	hourly
SFD Truck Engineer Back Line	\$446.50	yearly
SFD Truck Engineer Front Line	\$593.80	yearly
Tree Climber	\$19.35	hourly
Tree Groundman	\$16.65	hourly
Tree Warden	\$22.75	hourly
Veteran Agent	\$19.40	hourly
Zoning Board of Appeals	\$1,060.80	yearly
Zoning Board of Appeals - Alternate	\$498.75	yearly

#### **Schedule D**

	<b>I</b>	<b>II</b>	<b>III</b>	<b>IV</b>	<b>V</b>
Compensation Grade H-1	\$9.45	\$10.06	\$10.70	\$11.37	\$12.17
Compensation Grade H-2	\$10.70	\$11.37	\$12.17	\$13.21	\$13.97
Compensation Grade H-3	\$12.17	\$13.21	\$13.97	\$14.95	\$15.65
Compensation Grade H-4	\$13.97	\$14.95	\$15.65	\$16.73	\$17.47
Compensation Grade H-5	\$15.65	\$16.73	\$17.47	\$18.46	\$19.27
Compensation Grade H-6	\$17.47	\$18.46	\$19.27	\$20.23	\$21.57
Compensation Grade H-7	\$19.27	\$20.23	\$21.57	\$22.75	\$24.02

Compensation Grade H-8	\$21.57	\$22.64	\$23.78	\$24.97	\$26.21
Compensation Grade H-9	\$23.78	\$24.97	\$26.21	\$27.51	\$28.89
Compensation Grade H-10	\$26.21	\$27.51	\$28.89	\$30.33	\$31.84
Compensation Grade H-11	\$28.89	\$30.33	\$31.84	\$33.44	\$35.12
Compensation Grade H-12	\$31.84	\$33.44	\$35.12	\$36.85	\$38.70

**Article 8: The Moderator Declared a Majority Vote** to amend the Personnel Bylaws, Table of Contents, and Section 1. (Authorization) A. and B., by striking any reference to “Personnel Board” or “Board” and replacing them with the term “Town Administrator”, and further to delete Section 1.C. (Personnel Board), and to renumber Section 1. paragraphs accordingly.

**Article 9: The Moderator Declared a Majority Vote**, as a block, provided that any amount stated herein shall be for the use of the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District for Fiscal Year 2016 in accordance with any conditions stated herein and further provided that any stated amount shall be reduced to any lesser amount which shall subsequently be certified by the school committee and certified to the Town, to:

1. raise and appropriate the sum of Five Million, Nine Hundred Seven Thousand, Eight Hundred Thirty-Nine Dollars and No Cents (\$5,907,839.00) for the Operating Assessment Account #11300-56000 which represents the amount required for Minimum Local Contribution;
2. raise and appropriate the sum of One Million, Two Hundred Four Thousand, One Hundred Ninety-Five Dollars and No Cents (\$1,204,195.00) for the Operating Assessment Account #11300-56000 which represents the amount required for Transportation;
3. raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Forty-Five Thousand, Three Hundred Ninety-Four Dollars and No Cents (\$245,394.00) for the purposes of paying the costs of Debt Service and Capital Assessments Account #11300-56010 for previously approved building and design projects;
4. raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Eighty-Five Thousand, Five Hundred Thirty Dollars and No Cents (\$485,530.00) for the Operating Assessment Account #11300-56000 which represents the amount required for Additional Local Assessment,

*The following people spoke on this article: William R. Shemeth, III; Dr. N. Stacy Crowe, Kevin A. Hayes, Gary D. Suter, Gary E. Woodbury.*

**Article 10: The Moderator Declared a Majority Vote** to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million, One Hundred Thirty-Four Thousand, Thirty-Eight Dollars and No Cents (\$1,134,038.00) for Fiscal Year 2016 for the following purposes:

Bay Path Vocational Regional Technical High School Operating Assessment Account #11300-52000	\$872,978.00
Bay Path Vocational Regional Technical High School Transportation Assessment Account #11300-52000	\$ 82,414.00
Bay Path Vocation Regional Technical High School “Buy In” Debt Assessment Account #11300-52500	\$ 34,130.00
Bay Path Vocation Regional Technical High School Capital Debt Assessment Account #11300-52500	\$144,516.00

**Article 11: The Moderator Declared a Majority Vote** to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-Six Thousand, Forty Six Dollars and No Cents (\$46,046.00) for Fiscal Year 2016 for the following purposes:

Smith Regional Agricultural High School Non-resident Vocational Assessment  
Account #11300-52000 \$21,746.00

Smith Regional Agricultural High School Non-resident Vocational Transportation  
Account #11300-52100 \$24,300.00

*The following people spoke on this article: William R. Shemeth, III, Adam D. Gaudette, Mary E. Braney, Susan Terkanian, Dean Iacobucci.*

**Article 12: The Moderator Declared a Majority Vote** to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-Four Thousand, Four Hundred Eighteen Dollars and No Cents (\$44,418.00) for Fiscal Year 2016 for the following purposes:

Tantasqua Regional High School Non-resident Vocational Tuition Assessment  
Account #11300-52000 \$28,218.00

Tantasqua Regional High School Non-resident Vocational Transportation  
Account #11300-52100 \$16,200.00

**Article 13: The Moderator Declared a Majority Vote** to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-Nine Thousand, Ninety-Four Dollars and No Cents (\$39,094.00) for Fiscal Year 2016 for the following purposes:

Norfolk County Regional Agricultural High School Non-resident Vocational Tuition Assessment  
Account #11300-52000 \$21,094.00

Norfolk County Regional Agricultural High School Non-resident Vocational Transportation  
Account #11300-52100 \$18,000.00

**Article 14: The Moderator Declared a Majority Vote** to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Million, Six Hundred Twelve Thousand, Thirty-Five Dollars and No Cents (\$8,612,035.00) to pay for the operations of the General Government expenses for Fiscal Year 2016, and to meet said appropriation from a transfer of Ninety-Nine Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$99,000.00) from the Overlay Surplus Account, a transfer of Ten Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$10,000.00) from the Wetlands Protection Fund, from taxation, from available funds in the Treasury, and anticipated receipts as may be needed or decided necessary.

*Mr. William R. Shemeth, III spoke on this article.*

**Article 15: The Moderator Declared a Majority Vote:**

1. to appropriate the sum of One Million, Three Hundred Seventy-Seven Thousand, Three Hundred Thirty Dollars and No Cents (\$1,377,330.00) for the use of the Water Department for Fiscal Year 2016, and to fund said appropriation with a transfer from the receipts and revenue of the Water Enterprise Fund collected by the Water Department for said Fiscal Year;
2. authorize Indirect Costs for Fiscal Year 2016 at One Hundred Twenty-Nine Thousand, Forty-Six Dollars and No Cents (\$129,046.00); and
3. to have the Board of Water Commissioners set the Fiscal Year 2016 rates and fees to meet said appropriation and level of Indirect Costs.

**Article 16: The Moderator Declared a Majority Vote:**

1. to appropriate the sum of One Million, Two Hundred Thirty-Four Thousand, Three Hundred Twelve Dollars and No Cents (\$1,234,312.00) for the use of the Sewer Department for Fiscal Year 2016, and to fund said appropriation with a transfer of One Hundred Sixty-One Thousand, Four Hundred Fifty-Three Dollars and No Cents (\$161,453.00) from previously certified and available Retained Earnings of the Sewer Enterprise Fund, and the balance of said sum from the receipts and revenue of the Sewer Enterprise Fund collected by the Sewer Department for said Fiscal Year;
2. to authorize Indirect Costs for Fiscal Year 2016 at One Hundred Fifty-Eight Thousand, Eight Hundred Twenty-Seven Dollars and No Cents (\$158,827.00); and
3. to have the Board of Sewer Commissioners set the Fiscal Year 2016 rates and fees to meet said appropriation and level of Indirect Costs.

**Article 17: The Moderator Declared a Majority Vote** to appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Fifteen Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$215,000.00) for a Water Department capital project, as approved by the Capital Improvements Planning Committee (CIPC), as generally illustrated below and to meet said appropriation by transferring said sum from previously certified and available Retained Earnings of the Water Enterprise Fund;

1. \$170,000 for Replacement of Cold Storage Building at Meadow Well
2. \$45,000 for a New Utility Truck with Plow

**Article 18: The Moderator Declared a Majority Vote** to appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Seventy Six Thousand, Three Hundred One Dollars and Seventy-Three Cents (\$376,301.73) for a capital program of equipment purchases and improvements, as generally illustrated below, and to meet said appropriation by transferring the following sums from the following accounts; Three Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand, Four Hundred Eighty-One Dollars and Ninety-Four Cents (\$375,481.94) from previously certified and available Free Cash, Three Hundred Seventy Dollars and Eighty-Six Cents (\$370.86) from the Fire Department Computers Account (#60000-59208), Three Hundred Eighty Dollars and No Cents (\$380.00) from the Transfer Station Roof/Gutter Project Account (#60000-59218), and Sixty-Eight Dollars and Ninety-Three Cents (\$68.93) from the Emergency Siren Project Account (#60000-59218);

<u>Dept.</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Fire Department	5-ton Skid Unit	\$ 33,000.00
Highway Department	Fuel Pump Card Reader System	\$ 25,000.00
Highway Department	Used Excavator	\$ 35,000.00
Highway Department	Garage Roof Repair Project	\$105,819.79
Parks & Recreation	Depot Rail Trail (Ph II)	\$ 25,000.00
Police Department	Radio Console	\$ 18,000.00
Town Hall	Boiler/Heat Renovation Project	\$ 15,000.00
Town Hall	Kitchen Improvements (Sr. Center)	\$ 9,481.94
Utilities & Facilities	Landfill Cap Repairs	\$ 80,000.00
Utilities & Facilities	Remove Underground Storage Tanks	\$ 30,000.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 376,301.73</b>

*The following people spoke on this article: Kurt A. Nordquist, Steven J. Tyler, William R. Shemeth, III, Michael Toomey, Corey H. Lacaire*

**Article 19: The Moderator Declared a Majority Vote** to amend Article 28 from the May 7, 2009 Annual Town Meeting and eliminate the clause “Two (2) Trash Trailers” and replace with “Transfer Station Capital Projects”.

**Article 20: The Moderator Declared a Vote of 99 in favor and 1 against** to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell the Town owned real estate commonly known as Maple Street School, located at 68 Maple Street, Spencer, and generally described as Parcel 6, Map U02 in the records of the Board of Assessors, including the land, buildings, structures and fixtures thereon, on such terms, conditions, and consideration as the said Board of Selectmen deem to be reasonable, appropriate and in the best interests of the Town, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate, execute, and deliver such deeds and other documents as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this article.

*The following people spoke on this article: William R. Shemeth, III; Kurt A. Nordquist*

**Article 21: The Moderator declared a vote of 100 in favor and 0 against** to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell the Town owned real estate commonly known as Lake Street School, located at 17 Lake Street and 42 Highland Street, Spencer, and generally described as Parcel 1, Map U15 in the records of the Board of Assessors, including the land, buildings, structures and fixtures thereon, on such terms, conditions, and consideration as the said Board of Selectmen deem to be reasonable, appropriate and in the best interests of the Town, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate, execute, and deliver such deeds and other documents as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this article.

**Article 22: The Moderator declared a vote of 100 in favor and 0 against** to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell the Town owned real estate located at Stiles Avenue, Spencer, and generally described as Parcel 3, Map U29 in the records of the Board of Assessors, including the land, buildings, structures and fixtures thereon, on such terms, conditions, and consideration as the said Board of Selectmen deem to be reasonable, appropriate and in the best interests of the Town, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate, execute, and deliver such deeds and other documents as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this article.

**Article 23: The Moderator declared a vote of 100 in favor and 0 against** to accept the gift of privately owned real estate being a parcel of land located at Clark Road, Spencer, and generally described as Parcel 33-1, Map R14 in the records of the Board of Assessors, including the land, buildings, structures and fixtures thereon, on such terms, conditions, and consideration as the said Board of Selectmen deem to be reasonable, appropriate and in the best interests of the Town, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate, execute, and deliver such deeds and other documents as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this article.

**Article 24: The Moderator Declared a Majority Vote** to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a 10-year agreement for Light Repair Service with Paxton Municipal Light Company, as required by MGL c. 30B, §12.

**Article 25: The Moderator Declared a Majority Vote** to amend the General Bylaws Article 8 (Law Enforcement), Section 3 (Door to Door Sales) by deleting the existing Bylaw language and replacing with the following:

“No person or persons shall solicit, canvas, or distribute with intent to sell, any item or product door-to-door within the Town of Spencer without a License from the Chief of Police.

The provisions of this bylaw shall not apply to any person engaged in the pursuit of soliciting for charitable, benevolent, fraternal, religious or political activities, nor any person exempt by general law.

This bylaw shall also not be construed to prevent a route salesmen having established customers to whom they make periodic deliveries from calling upon such customers.

A solicitor or canvasser is defined as any person who, travels by foot, automobile or any other type of conveyance from place to place, from house to house, or from street to street, taking or attempting to lease or to take orders for retail sale of goods, wares, merchandise, or services.

Applicants for a license shall file with the Chief of Police, on a form issued by the Police Department, a written application signed under the penalties of perjury, containing the following information:

- (a) Name and home address of applicant
- (b) Name and address of employer
- (c) Applicant's height, weight, eye and hair color
- (d) Applicant's date of birth and social security number
- (e) Home, work and cellular telephone numbers
- (f) Email address
- (g) Nature of business and goods to be sold
- (h) If operating a motor vehicle: year, make, model, registration number, State of registration, vehicle's owner and address

At the time of filing the application, each applicant shall pay a fee of \$25.00 – check or money order made payable to the Town of Spencer. Upon receipt of the application, the Chief of Police shall investigate the applicant's reputation as to morals and integrity. Each licensee is required to possess an individual license.

A Door to Door sales person shall not be disrespectful or abusive in language or action and shall not employ unfair or deceptive practices during the course of their activities. No activities shall be conducted before 9 am or after 7 pm or at any time on Sundays or Holidays.

No license shall be issued to any person having been convicted of the following: a felony; a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for more than two years; a violent crime; a violation of any law regulating the use or possession of weapons or ammunition; a violation of any law regulating the use or possession of a controlled substances.

After an investigation, the Chief of Police shall endorse on such application his approval or disapproval. The Chief of Police is hereby vested with the jurisdiction over issuing and revoking of licenses. If the license is disapproved or revoked, the applicant shall have the right of appeal to the Town Administrator. Each license issued under the provisions of the bylaw shall continue in force from the date of issue until the thirty-first day of December following, unless revoked sooner.

Whoever violates any provision of this bylaw shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed \$200.00."

*The following people spoke on this article: William R. Shemeth, III; Police Chief David Darrin*

**Article 26: The Moderator Declared a Majority Vote** to amend the General Bylaws Article 3 (Town Clerk), by inserting new Section 5., which shall state the following:

"The Town Clerk is authorized to assign appropriate numbers to Bylaw section, subsections, paragraphs, and subparagraphs, where none are approved by Town Meeting, and, if such are approved by Town Meeting, after consultation with the Town Administrator, to make non-substantive, editorial revisions to ensure consistent and appropriate sequencing and numbering, provided such editorial revisions shall be identified by a footnote or other convention."

**Article 27: The Moderator Declared a Majority Vote Against** amending the General Bylaws Article 1 (Town Meetings and Elections), Section 4 (Quorum) by deleting the existing Section language and replacing with the following:



“For all Special Town Meetings a quorum of 50 voters and for all Annual Town Meetings a quorum of 75 voters shall be required for such meetings.”

*Albert W. Atchue spoke on this article.*

**Article 28: The Moderator Declared a Majority Vote** to amend the General Bylaws Article 14 (Stormwater Management Bylaw), Section 1A. by inserting the following new paragraphs:

- “7. Prevent and eliminate non-stormwater discharges to the Town’s municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4).
8. Prohibit illicit connections and unauthorized discharges to the MS4, and require the removal of all such illicit connections.”

And also amending Section 2 by inserting the following new definitions:

“ILICIT CONNECTION – A surface or subsurface drain, conduit, or conveyance that allows an illicit discharge to enter the MS4, including without limitation sewage, seepage, process wastewater, or wash water, and any connection from indoor drains, sinks, or toilets, regardless of whether said connection was permissible under applicable law, regulation, or custom at the time of construction.

ILICIT DISCHARGE – Direct or indirect discharge to the MS4 that is not composed entirely of stormwater, except as exempted herein.

MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM (MS4) – The system of conveyances designed or used for collecting or conveying stormwater, including any road with a drainage system, street, gutter, curb, inlet, piped storm drain, pumping facility, retention or detention basin, natural or manmade or altered drainage channel, reservoir, and other drainage structure that together comprise the storm drainage system owned or operated by the Town of Spencer.”

**Article 29: The Moderator declared a vote of 93 in favor and 7 against** amending the Zoning Bylaws, Section 4.2, Subsection E.24 (Use Table) as follows:

ZONING DISTRICTS		RR	SR	LR	VR	TC	C	I
<b><i>E. Retail Business and Consumer Service continued</i></b>								
24	Tattoo parlor, body piercing studio	N	N	N	N	<del>SP</del>	SP	N

And to also amend Section 4.3.20 (*Tattoo parlors or body piercing studios*) by striking the following language:

- “A. The parcel upon which they are located is at least 400 feet from any residential zoning district or town boundary and at least 1,000 feet from any school, childcare facility, public playground, public park or recreational facility, library, church or other religious use.”

And inserting new language as follows:

- “A. Tattoo parlors and body piercing studios shall provide, as part of the special permit review, proof of Board of Health Review and certification that the facility complies with all Board of Health regulations. Failure to provide such evidence shall be considered grounds for denial of the Special Permit. Revocation of Board of Health approval shall be deemed grounds for revocation of the Special Permit.”

*The following people spoke on this article: James D. Whalen, Robert Emerson, William R. Shemeth, III, Michelle Buck.*

**Article 30: The Moderator declared a majority vote to pass over this article** to amend the Zoning Bylaws Section 6.2 (Common Driveways) by deleting the existing Bylaw language and replacing with the following:

“6.2 Driveways

6.2.1 The number of driveways shall be limited to two per lot. Driveways shall be located so as to minimize conflict with traffic on public or private streets and shall conform to the Spencer Driveway Bylaw and Spencer Highway Department Driveway Permit Requirements.

6.2.2 Table of Driveway Width Requirements:

<i>Use Category</i>	<i>One-Lane Use Minimum Width (feet)</i>	<i>Two-Lane Use Minimum/Maximum Width (feet)</i>
Commercial & Multi-Family	15	20/24
Single or Two-Family Dwelling	12	18/20
Note: See Section 6.2.11 for width requirements for common driveways for single-family dwellings		

6.2.3 Driveways shall be arranged for the free flow of vehicles at all times; and the maneuvering spaces and aisles shall be so designed that all vehicles may exit from and enter onto a public street by being driven in a forward direction.

6.2.4. Common (shared) driveways are allowed for commercial and multi-family uses by-right. Common drives for single-family dwellings are allowed only by special permit in accordance with Section 6.2.11.

6.2.5 For structures that are not subject to Section 7.4, Site Plan Review, specifically residential structures of 3 units or less, the application for a building permit shall include a plan prepared in accordance with the Town of Spencer Driveway Bylaw and Spencer Highway Department Driveway Permit Requirements.

6.2.6 All driveways, including common driveways, shall be constructed in a manner ensuring reasonable and safe access from the street serving the premises to the building site of the structure on the premises, for all vehicles, including, but not limited to, emergency, fire and police vehicles. The Building Inspector shall not issue a building permit for the principal structure on the premises unless the applicant demonstrates conformance with Spencer Highway Department Driveway Permit Requirements and the additional requirements listed under Sections 6.2.7, 6.2.8., 6.2.9, and 6.10.

6.2.7 Driveways shall be surfaced with a durable, all-season nondusting material, drained and suitably maintained to the extent necessary to avoid any nuisance by reason of dust, erosion or water flow onto streets or adjoining property.

6.2.8. A paved apron of at least 15 feet in length shall be constructed at the driveway – street intersection, in conformance with Spencer Highway Department Driveway Permit Requirements, to ensure that dirt and debris is not tracked into the street.

6.2.9. The grade of each driveway shall not exceed 15% unless the Planning Board grants a special permit after a determination that said driveway will provide safe and reasonable access for vehicles.

6.2.10. Except in access strips for rear lots (§5.3.10) and parcels with insufficient frontage (§5.3.11), no driveway shall be located within 10 feet of any side or rear lot line except by special

permit by the Planning Board after a determination that said driveway will provide safe and reasonable access for all vehicles.

6.2.11 For single-family dwellings, common driveways may be permitted upon granting of a special permit to service no more than two lots. The purpose of allowing common driveways is to reduce traffic hazards from numerous individual driveways, to consolidate access to the buildable areas of lots across wetland resources, and to minimize the removal of trees and other vegetation, thereby preserving the rural character. The applicant shall submit documents, plans, and profiles for approval to the Planning Board to assure compliance with the following standards for common driveways:

- A. *The maximum grade shall be 12%. The minimum grade shall be 1%, with a 5% maximum grade within 50 feet of the driveway's intersection with a street. The minimum centerline radius shall be 45 feet. The maximum length shall be 2,000 feet.*
- B. *The minimum width for the durable surface shall be 15 feet and maximum width shall be 24 feet, with a 3 foot wide gravel shoulder on at least one side for any driveway of 18 feet wide or less. Driveways shall be surfaced with a durable, all season non-dusting material, drained and suitably maintained to the extent necessary to avoid any nuisance by reason of dust, erosion or water flow onto streets or adjoining property.*
- C. *The common driveway shall exit onto the frontage street with a minimum angle of intersection of 45 degrees, and shall be located entirely within the boundaries of the lots being served.*
- D. *An easement with a minimum width of 24 feet shall be created and recorded along with the deeds for the lots to assure maintenance, drainage, snow removal, snow storage, rubbish collection, and the like, and liability for the common driveway shall remain the responsibility of the private parties, or their successors-in-interest, in perpetuity. A copy of the draft maintenance agreement shall be submitted with the application.*
- E. *The Planning Board may grant waivers to the requirements of these paragraphs A, B, and C if they make a finding that doing so would not have a detrimental impact on the public safety."*

And by also amending Section 7.2.1, (Special Permit Granting Authority), Paragraph 6, by string the word "common."

**Article 31: The Moderator Declared a Majority Vote** in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 41, §1B to change the position of Treasurer/Collector from an elected position to an appointed position, said vote being contingent on the affirmative vote at the Annual Town Election to be held on May 12, 2015.

*The following people spoke on this article: Gary E. Woodbury, James D. Whalen, Adam D. Gaudette, Michael Toomey, Thomas F. Parker, William R. Shemeth, III*

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by William R. Shemeth, III and seconded by James D. Whalen.

Majority voted at 8:58 p.m. to dissolve the Meeting.

One hundred twenty registered voters attended.

**Annual Town Election  
May 12, 2015**

In accordance with the warrant, the polls opened at 12:00 noon and closed at 8:00 p.m.

The following were appointed election officers for Precinct #1:

Warden: Dianne K. Scanlon  
Clerk: Pauline M. Casavant  
Inspectors: Ronald R. Fortin, Linda L. Gould, John F. Wilson, Robert J. Gadbois  
Deputy Inspectors: Lucille E. Ela, Carole M. Caissie

Nine absentee ballots were cast in this precinct. One hundred eighty-one ballots were handed out by the inspectors, of these, two were spoiled, making a total of one hundred eighty-eight ballots cast. The ballot box registered one hundred eighty-eight ballots cast at the closing of the polls.

The following were appointed election officers for Precinct #2:

Warden: Peter T. McGinn  
Clerk: William J. Lehtola  
Inspectors: Eileen M. Prizio, Patricia M. Ensom, Karen E. Gaucher, Irene M. Gadbois  
Deputy Inspectors: Sylvia E. Berthiaume, Theresa L. Ethier

Eleven absentee ballots were cast in this precinct. One hundred ninety ballots were handed out by the inspectors, of these, two were spoiled, making a total of One hundred ninety-eight ballots cast. The ballot box registered one hundred ninety-eight ballots cast at the closing of the polls.

The following were appointed election officers for Precinct #3:

Warden: Mark S. Lammi  
Clerk: A. Marie McDevitt  
Inspectors: Joyce S. O'Coin, Mercie M. Vinton, Nicole C. Cloutier,  
Nancy A. Richardson  
Deputy Inspectors: Louise C. Ethier, Winifred J. Bouley

Ten absentee ballots were cast in this precinct. Two hundred forty-five ballots were handed out by the inspectors. Of these, three were spoiled, making a total of two hundred fifty-two ballots cast. The ballot box registered two hundred fifty-one at the closing of polls. One ballot was hand-counted from the auxiliary compartment. One specially qualified ballot was hand counted in the Town Clerk's office as required by statute.

The following were appointed election officers for Precinct #4:

Warden: Virginia A. Fanning  
Clerk: Judith A. Fortin  
Inspectors: Lucinda Puchalski, Linda Wozniak, Carol A. St. John,  
Kathleen M. Beford  
Deputy Inspectors: Theresa M. Berthiaume, Betsy A. Arakelian

Seven absentee ballots were cast in this precinct. Two hundred one ballots were handed out by the inspectors. Of these, four were spoiled, making a total of two hundred four ballots cast. The ballot box registered two hundred four at the closing of polls.

The counting and tabulation was completed at 10:15 p.m.

<b>Town of Spencer</b>	<b>Annual Town Election</b>				<b>5/12/15</b>
	Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total
<b>Board of Selectman</b>					
Blanks	49	53	58	53	213
John F. Stevens	135	141	194	151	621
Write-ins:					0
Corey Lacaire	1				1
Mary Braney	1				1
Kurt Nordquist	1		1		2
Tom Ryan	1				1
William Shemeth		1			1
Heidi Brinke-Malone		1			1
Denise Lacroix		1			1
Drew Damian		1			1
					0
Total	188	198	253	204	843

<b>Town of Spencer</b>	<b>Annual Town Election</b>				<b>5/12/15</b>
	Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total
<b>Town Clerk</b>					
Blanks	38	35	45	31	149
Laura J. Torti	150	163	208	173	694
Write-ins:					0
					0
					0
					0
					0
Total	188	198	253	204	843

<b>Town of Spencer</b>	<b>Annual Town Election</b>				<b>5/12/15</b>
	Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total
<b>Assessor</b>					
Blanks	180	188	245	185	798
Write-ins:					0
David Derosier			4	12	16
Maureen Hatch				1	1
Denise Anderson				1	1
Ryan Connor				1	1
Ronald Jamack				1	1
Tyler				1	1
David Jepson				1	1
C. Baker				1	1
Maureen Hanlon	2				2
Rodney Foisy	1				1
Michael Mercadante	1				1

Robert Ferrera	1					1	
Corey Lacaire	1					1	
James Whalen	1		1			2	
Mary Williams	1					1	
Lori Bowen		1				1	
Robert Breault		1				1	
David Damir		1				1	
Pat Woodbury		1				1	
Sal Mocerino		1				1	
Joseph Lerourneux		1				1	
Willfred O'Coin		1				1	
Maureen Hafell		1				1	
Al Forand		1				1	
Mark Lammie		1				1	
Rich Hebson			1			1	
Charles Bellemer			1			1	
Gary Suter			1			1	
						0	
						0	
						0	
						0	
						0	
						0	
						0	
						0	
						0	
						0	
Total	188	198	253	204		843	

Town of Spencer	Annual Town Election				5/12/15
	Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total
<b>Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School Committee - Spencer Rep - 3 Year</b>					
Blanks	75	113	97	80	365
Kurt A. Nordquist	81	94	113	83	371
Wendy A. Pelchat	101	86	131	107	425
James R. St. Peter, Jr.	118	102	164	137	521
Write Ins:					0
Martha Berthiaume				1	1
Paul Smith	1				1
Robert Cleary		1			1
Richard P. Witz			1		1

Total	376	396	506	408	1686
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Town of Spencer	Annual Town Election				5/12/15
	Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total
<b>Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School Committee - East Brookfield Rep - 3 Year</b>					
Blanks	58	60	69	61	248
Heather M. Messier	130	137	184	143	594
Write-ins:					0
William Shemeth		1			1
					0
					0
					0
Total	188	198	253	204	843

Town of Spencer	Annual Town Election				5/12/15
	Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total
<b>Water Commissioner</b>					
Blanks	51	38	68	54	211
Robert O. (Bo) Fritze, Jr.	137	157	185	148	627
Write-ins:					0
Kurt Nordquist				1	1
Jene Koprowski				1	1
Eben Butler		1			1
Kenneth Day		2			2
					0
					0
Total	188	198	253	204	843

Town of Spencer	Annual Town Election				5/12/15
	Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total
<b>Park Commissioner</b>					
Blanks	52	46	57	50	205
Anthony F. Toscano	136	150	195	154	635
Write-ins:					0
William Shemeth		1			1
Mark Lammi		1			1
Richard P. Witz			1		1
					0
Total	188	198	253	204	843



<b>Town of Spencer</b>	<b>Annual Town Election</b>				<b>5/12/15</b>
	Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total
<b>Library Trustee</b>					
Blanks	45	45	56	47	193
Lynn Dobson	143	153	197	157	650
Write-ins:					0
					0
					0
					0
					0
Total	188	198	253	204	843

<b>Town of Spencer</b>	<b>Annual Town Election</b>				<b>5/12/15</b>
	Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total
<b>Board of Health</b>					
Blanks	56	50	57	46	209
Robert James Bradshaw, Jr.	132	147	196	158	633
Write-ins:					0
Paul Aucoin		1			1
					0
					0
					0
					0
					0
Total	188	198	253	204	843

<b>Town of Spencer</b>	<b>Annual Town Election</b>				<b>5/12/15</b>
	Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total
<b>Sewer Commissioner</b>					
Blanks	53	46	62	55	216
Francis X. White	135	151	191	149	626
Write-ins:					0
Gerald Martin		1			1
					0
					0
					0
					0
					0
Total	188	198	253	204	843

<b>Town of Spencer</b>	<b>Annual Town Election</b>				<b>5/12/15</b>
	Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total

<b>Question 1 (Treasurer/Collector)</b>					
Blanks	11	8	12	21	52
Yes	80	70	113	86	349
No	97	120	128	97	442
Total	188	198	253	204	843

<b>Town of Spencer</b>		<b>Annual Town Election</b>				<b>5/12/15</b>
		Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total
<b>Question 2 (Radio Project)</b>						
Blanks	12	7	11	23	53	
Yes	84	74	110	81	349	
No	92	117	132	100	441	
Total	188	198	253	204	843	

<b>Town of Spencer</b>		<b>Annual Town Election</b>				<b>5/12/15</b>
		Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total
<b>Question 3 (Salt Shed)</b>						
Blanks	11	7	10	24	52	
Yes	95	81	122	92	390	
No	82	110	121	88	401	
Total	188	198	253	204	843	

**Total Registered Voters**                      **7,221**  
**Total Votes Casts**                      **843**  
**Percentage Voter Turnout**                      **12%**

**Special Town Meeting  
November 19, 2015  
Memorial Town Hall**

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Moderator Peter J. Adams after determining a quorum was present.

Reading of the Return of the Warrant was waived. Meeting was posted in accordance with the law. The Moderator led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence to honor those who have been victims of recent acts of terrorism.

Moderator Adams noted the following:

*“Every day we make history in the conduct of our normal affairs. Tonight we will make history as we exercise our right of self-determination to settle the affairs of our town government by consensus as a free and equal people in this 262<sup>nd</sup> year of our existence as a body politic. Our decisions will be chronicled and preserved. In future days, others will reflect on our actions through the lenses of time and judgment to discern the jewels worthy of inclusion into the lore of our combined experiences as a town, a state or a nation. And yet, though we are the creators of this history, by necessity, we often fail to realize the historical significance of what we do.*

*I believe there is no better example of this than what transpired on this date 152 years ago—November 19, 1863—when President Abraham Lincoln rose before 9,000 people convened in a semicircle around a platform as part of the dedication of the Soldiers’ National Cemetery at Gettysburg, put on his steel frame glasses, and delivered a two minute speech for the ages—one that would ultimately be deemed the guiding force of this Republic that ‘government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth.’*

*When he finished, the audience, having just endured a two minute address by a noted orator and stunned by the brevity of Lincoln’s words, stood transfixed. Applause followed only when Lincoln returned to his chair. As he did so, he remarked to an aide that the speech was a ‘flat failure and the people are disappointed.’ In historical perspective, it wasn’t and they weren’t.*

*Tonight and in the nights of future years may be honor the spirit of that now famous address by governing wisely in behalf of all the people as we continue this grand experiment of governance by and for the people.”*

The Moderator introduced to attendees; himself, members of the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator Adam Gaudette, Finance Committee Chair Mary Braney and Town Clerk Laura Torti. The Moderator thanked Spencer Cable Access for broadcasting the meeting and reviewed the ground rules and parliamentary procedure for Town Meetings.

Town Administrator Adam Gaudette informed those present that a Comprehensive Road Project Analysis was available to those who wished to review it and also noted that information and staff persons pertaining to the Community Development Block Grant was available in the rotunda.

The following articles were acted upon:

**Article 1:**

**AUTHORIZATION TO PAY A PRIOR FISCAL YEAR'S EXPENSE**

*The Moderator declared a unanimous vote of 100 to 0 to appropriate the sum of Ninety Dollars, and No Cents (\$90.00) to pay a prior year expense (Laboratory Water Quality Testing) for the Water Department and to meet said appropriation by transferring said sum from certified and available Retained Earnings of the Water Enterprise Fund.*

**Article 2:**

**AUTHORIZATION TO AMEND A PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ARTICLE**

*The Moderator declared a majority vote to amend Article 11 from the May 7, 2015 Annual Town Meeting in order to raise and appropriate an additional sum of One Thousand, Eight Hundred Ten Dollars and No Cents (\$1,810.00) for additional Smith Regional Agricultural High School Tuition (\$10 to Account #11300-52000) and Additional Transportation Assessment (\$1,800 to Account #11300-52100) for Fiscal Year 2016.*

*Selectman Anthony D. Pepe spoke on this article.*

**Article 3:**

**AUTHORIZATION TO RESCIND THE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ARTICLE FOR THE FY2016 GENERAL GOVERNMENT OPERATING BUDGET**

*The Moderator declared a majority vote to rescind Article 14 from the May 7, 2015 Annual Town Meeting for the purposes of voting to approve the following Article #4 that will adjust the Fiscal Year 2016 General Government Operating Budget; said rescission is contingent upon the approval of Article #4.*

**Article 4:**

**AUTHORIZATION TO APPROPRIATE THE REVISED FY2016 GENERAL GOVERNMENT OPERATING BUDGET**

*The Moderator declared a majority vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Million, Seven Hundred Sixteen Thousand, One Hundred Forty-Seven Dollars and No Cents (\$8,716,147.00) to pay for the operations of the General Government expenses for Fiscal Year 2016, and to meet said appropriation from a transfer of Ninety-Nine Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$99,000.00) from the Overlay Surplus Account, a transfer of Ten Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$10,000.00) from the Wetlands Protection Fund, Thirty-One Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$31,000.00) from Available and Certified Free Cash, and from taxation, from available funds in the Treasury, and anticipated receipts as may be needed or decided necessary.*

*Note: The amended Fiscal Year 2016 Operating Budget is attached. Town Administrator Adam Gaudette reviewed the amendments to the budget for those present.*

**Article 5:**

**AUTHORIZATION TO RESCIND THE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ARTICLE FOR THE FY2016 WATER DEPARTMENT BUDGET**

*The Moderator declared a majority vote to* rescind Article 15 from the May 7, 2015 Annual Town Meeting for the purposes of voting to approve the following Article #6 that will adjust the Fiscal Year 2016 Water Department Budget; said rescission is contingent upon the approval of Article #6.

**Article 6:**

**AUTHORIZATION TO APPROPRIATE THE REVISED FY2016 WATER DEPARTMENT BUDGET**

*The Moderator declared a majority vote to:*

1. to appropriate the sum of One Million, Three Hundred Seventy Thousand, Six Hundred Ten Dollars and No Cents (\$1,370,610.00) for the use of the Water Department for Fiscal Year 2016, and to fund said appropriation with a transfer from the receipts and revenue of the Water Enterprise Fund collected by the Water Department for said Fiscal Year;
2. authorize Indirect Costs for Fiscal Year 2016 at One Hundred Twenty-Nine Thousand, Five Hundred Eighty-Three Dollars and No Cents (\$129,583.00); and
3. to have the Board of Water Commissioners set the Fiscal Year 2016 rates and fees to meet said appropriation and level of Indirect Costs.

**Article 7:**

**AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER MONIES TO A RESERVE FUND**

*The Moderator declared a majority vote to* appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$1,000.00) for the Sick Leave Buy Back Fund (Account #083-83000-39800) and to meet said appropriation by transferring from previously certified and available Free Cash.

**Article 8:**

**AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER MONIES TO A RESERVE FUND**

*The Moderator declared a majority vote to* appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$5,000.00) for the Board of Health Site Clean-up Fund (Account #60000-59145) and to meet said appropriation by transferring from previously certified and available Free Cash.

## **Article 9:**

### **AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER MONIES TO FUND CAPITAL EXPENDITURES**

*The Moderator declared a majority vote to* appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$25,000.00) for a Water Department SCADA Upgrade capital project, as approved by the Capital Improvements Planning Committee (CIPC), and to meet said appropriation by transferring said sum from previously certified and available Retained Earnings of the Water Enterprise Fund.

## **Article 10:**

### **AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER MONIES BETWEEN CAPITAL ACCOUNTS**

*The Moderator declared a majority vote to* transfer the sum of Eleven Thousand, Seven Hundred Thirty-One Dollars and Eighty-Four Cents (\$11,731.84) from the Water Department Water Meters Capital Account (Account #15000-58840) to the Water Department Capital Efficiency Plan Account (Account #15000-58860), and to transfer the sum of One Hundred Thirty-Four Thousand, Five Hundred Sixteen Dollars and Eighty-Seven Cents (\$134,516.87) from the Water Department Capital Outlay Account (Account #15000-58000) to the Water Department Capital Efficiency Plan Account (Account #15000-58860).

## **Article 11:**

### **AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER MONIES TO FUND CAPITAL EXPENDITURES**

*The Moderator declared a majority vote to* appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$200,000.00) for a Sewer Department Clarifiers Upgrade capital project, as approved by the Capital Improvements Planning Committee (CIPC), and to meet said appropriation by transferring the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$100,000.00) from previously certified and available Retained Earnings of the Sewer Enterprise Fund and by transferring the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$100,000.00) from the Sewer Department Capital Account (20000-58600).

## **Article 12:**

### **AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER MONIES TO FUND CAPITAL EXPENDITURES**

*The Moderator declared a majority vote to* appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$350,000.00) for capital equipment purchases and capital improvements, as generally illustrated below, and to meet said appropriation by transferring Two Hundred Seventy Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$270,000.00) from previously certified and available Free Cash and Eighty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$80,000.00) from the Landfill Cap Repair capital account (Account# 60000-59248).

<b><u>Dept.</u></b>	<b><u>Item</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
Library	Copier Replacement	\$ 3,000.00
Fire Department	Emergency Generator	\$ 4,000.00
Fire Department	Pagers	\$ 6,500.00
Fire Department	Communications Upgrades	\$122,000.00

Fire/Police Dept.	Phone Systems Replacement	\$ 25,000.00
Highway Department	Fuel Pump Card Reader (additional)	\$ 10,000.00
Highway Department	Additional Garage Roof Repair Funds	\$ 50,000.00
Highway Department	Mechanic Street Parking Lot Repairs	\$ 75,000.00
Town Hall	Consultant Services (Solar Landfill RFP)	\$ 10,000.00
Town Hall	Design Services (Demo Cherry/Pleasant)	\$ 10,000.00
Town Hall	Buildings Study (Lake, Maple, Sugden)	\$ 30,000.00

**Total: \$ 350,000.00**

### **Article 13:**

#### **AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER MONIES TO BALANCE A CAPITAL ACCOUNT**

*The Moderator declared a majority vote to* appropriate the sum of Fourteen Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$14,000.00) for the Town Hall Boiler Replacement Project (Account #60000-59237) and to meet said appropriation by transferring from previously certified and available Free Cash.

*Barbara Grusell and Town Administrator Adam Gaudette spoke on this article.*

### **Article 14:**

#### **AUTHORIZATION TO AMEND THE PERSONNEL BYLAWS**

*The Moderator declared a majority vote to* amend the Personnel Bylaws, becoming effective January 1, 2016, by amending the Section entitled “Health, Dental, & Life Benefits” by striking the words “begin the first of the month immediately following a full 30 days of employment” and replacing with the words “begin the first date of employment.

*Selectman John F. Stevens spoke on this article.*

### **Article 15:**

#### **AUTHORIZATION TO AMEND THE PERSONNEL BYLAWS**

*The Moderator declared a majority vote to* amend the Personnel Bylaws, becoming effective January 1, 2016, by eliminating the entire Section entitled “Sick Leave Incentive”, and amending the Section entitled “Personal Days” by striking the word “three” and replacing with the word “six”.

*Selectman John F. Stevens spoke on this article.*

### **Article 16:**

#### **AUTHORIZATION TO AMEND THE PERSONNEL BYLAWS**

*The Moderator declared a majority vote to* amend the Personnel Bylaws, becoming effective January 1, 2016, amending Schedule C, by inserting the new position of “Police Detail Officer” and inserting the Compensation rate of “\$45.00 hourly”.

*Selectman John F. Stevens spoke on this article.*

A motion was made and seconded to dissolve the Meeting.  
Majority voted at 8:05 p.m. to dissolve this Meeting.

A total of 172 registered voters attended.

Laura J. Torti  
Town Clerk



# TOWN ACCOUNTANT

**TOWN OF SPENCER MASSACHUSETTS**  
**COMBINED BALANCE SHEET - ALL FUNDS TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUP**  
 June 30, 2015

	Governmental Fund Type					Proprietary Fund Type	Fiduciary Fund Type	Account Group	Totals
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise	Trust and Agency	Long Term Debt	Memorandum Only		
<b>Assets</b>									
Cash and Investments	\$ 1,606,187.91	\$ 1,091,918.90	\$ 810,022.81	\$ 1,630,743.73	\$ 1,348,445.81	\$ -	\$ 6,487,319.16		
Cash in Custody of Others	3,500.00	-	-	-	-	-	3,500.00		
Receivables:									
Property Taxes	209,264.87	-	-	-	-	-	209,264.87		
Deferred Property									
Excise Taxes	163,823.22	-	-	-	-	-	163,823.22		
Tax Liens	184,967.78	-	-	-	-	-	184,967.78		
Tax Foreclosures	92,901.39	-	-	-	-	-	92,901.39		
User Charges	-	-	-	75,546.16	-	-	75,546.16		
Other	166,889.45	161,145.69	-	-	-	-	328,035.14		
Special Assessment	-	487.50	-	-	-	-	487.50		
Special Assessment Not Yet Due	2,371.10	233,339.71	-	-	-	-	235,710.81		
Less: Allowance for Abatements	(65,713.78)	-	-	-	-	-	(65,713.78)		
Due From Other Governments	-	520,166.80	-	-	-	-	520,166.80		
Amount to be Provided for the Payment of Notes/Debts	-	-	-	9,134,058.13	-	1,422,200.00	10,556,258.13		
<b>Total Assets</b>	\$ 2,364,191.94	\$ 2,007,058.60	\$ 810,022.81	\$ 10,840,348.02	\$ 1,348,445.81	\$ 1,422,200.00	\$ 18,792,267.18		
<b>Liabilities and Fund Equity</b>									
<b>Liabilities:</b>									
Employee Withholdings	\$ 13,721.62	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,721.62		
Due to Others/Deposits	407.61	6,730.00	-	11,000.00	-	-	18,137.61		
Due to Other Government	-	520,166.80	-	-	-	-	520,166.80		
Deferred Revenue:									
Property Taxes	143,551.09	-	-	-	-	-	143,551.09		
Other	600,869.37	394,972.90	-	75,546.16	-	-	1,071,388.43		
Bond Indebtedness	-	-	-	9,134,058.13	-	1,422,200.00	10,556,258.13		
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	\$ 758,549.69	\$ 921,869.70	\$ -	\$ 9,220,604.29	\$ -	\$ 1,422,200.00	\$ 12,323,223.68		
<b>Fund Equity:</b>									
Fund Balance:									
Reserved for Debt	\$ 193,750.63	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Reserved for Encumbrances	-	-	-	-	40,375.00	-	40,375.00		
Reserved for Nonexpendable Trust Principle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Reserved for Capital	-	-	-	79,691.35	-	-	-		
Unreserved:									
Designated for Subsequent Years Expenditures	299,449.00	-	-	1,128,455.29	-	-	1,128,455.29		
Undesignated	1,112,442.62	1,085,188.90	810,022.81	411,597.09	1,308,070.81	-	3,614,879.61		
<b>Total Fund Equity</b>	\$ 1,605,642.25	\$ 1,085,188.90	\$ 810,022.81	\$ 1,619,743.73	\$ 1,348,445.81	\$ -	\$ 6,469,043.50		
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Equity</b>	\$ 2,364,191.94	\$ 2,007,058.60	\$ 810,022.81	\$ 10,840,348.02	\$ 1,348,445.81	\$ 1,422,200.00	\$ 18,792,267.18		

**Financial Highlights**  
**Statement of Net Position Highlights**

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>		
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>Assets:</b>			
Current assets	\$ 7,067,939	\$ 6,448,861	\$ 619,078
Noncurrent assets (excluding capital assets)	201,546	238,802	(37,256)
Capital assets	9,247,629	8,802,910	444,719
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>16,517,114</b>	<b>15,490,573</b>	<b>1,026,541</b>
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources:</b>			
Deferred outflows related to pensions	4,925	-	4,925
<b>Liabilities:</b>			
Current liabilities (excluding debt and lease)	517,436	453,394	64,042
Current debt and lease	427,645	427,316	329
Noncurrent liabilities (excluding debt and lease)	10,285,637	9,888,784	396,853
Noncurrent debt and lease	1,046,815	1,474,460	(427,645)
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>12,277,533</b>	<b>12,243,954</b>	<b>33,579</b>
<b>Net Position:</b>			
Net Investment in Capital Assets	8,045,369	7,201,234	844,135
Restricted	2,340,872	2,071,486	269,386
Unrestricted	(6,141,735)	(6,026,101)	(115,634)
<b>Total net position</b>	<b>\$ 4,244,506</b>	<b>\$ 3,246,619</b>	<b>\$ 997,887</b>

	<b>Business-Type Activities</b>		
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>Assets:</b>			
Current assets	\$ 1,788,430	\$ 3,274,842	\$ (1,486,412)
Capital assets	13,354,966	12,390,690	964,276
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>15,143,396</b>	<b>15,665,532</b>	<b>(522,136)</b>
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources:</b>			
Deferred outflows related to pensions	563	-	563
<b>Liabilities:</b>			
Current liabilities (excluding debt)	175,659	250,505	(74,846)
Current debt	639,340	634,407	4,933
Noncurrent liabilities (excluding debt)	1,236,521	1,191,248	45,273
Noncurrent debt	8,440,884	9,134,059	(693,175)
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>10,492,404</b>	<b>11,210,219</b>	<b>(717,815)</b>
<b>Net Position:</b>			
Net Investment in Capital Assets	4,274,742	4,340,747	(66,005)
Restricted	350,242	79,691	270,551
Unrestricted	26,571	34,875	(8,304)
<b>Total net position</b>	<b>\$ 4,651,555</b>	<b>\$ 4,455,313</b>	<b>\$ 196,242</b>

**TOWN OF SPENCER, MASSACHUSETTS  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES -  
BUDGETARY BASIS - (NON-GAAP) -  
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015**

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Amounts	Variance with
	Original	Final	Budgetary	Carried	Final Budget
	Budget	Budget	Basis	Forward	Positive
				to Next Year	(Negative)
<b>Revenues:</b>					
Property Taxes	\$ 12,501,715.00	\$ 12,501,715.00	\$ 12,487,797.67	\$ -	\$ (13,917.33)
State Receipts	2,277,345.00	2,277,345.00	2,284,739.00	-	7,394.00
Excise and Other Taxes	1,293,500.00	1,293,500.00	1,503,951.20	-	210,451.20
Charges for Services - Trash	324,500.00	324,500.00	350,399.75	-	25,899.75
Licenses, Permits, Fees	390,487.00	390,487.00	488,446.85	-	97,959.85
Interest on Taxes	96,000.00	96,000.00	89,427.38	-	(6,572.62)
Interest on Investments	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,440.56	-	(59.44)
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>16,891,047.00</b>	<b>16,891,047.00</b>	<b>17,212,202.41</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>321,155.41</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>					
Current:					
General Government	1,012,677.00	1,012,677.00	835,692.32	29,000.00	147,984.68
Protection of Persons and Property	2,825,599.00	2,866,792.06	2,751,628.21	100,250.00	14,913.85
Public Works	1,848,660.00	2,213,660.00	1,900,547.95	63,199.00	249,913.05
Education	8,660,025.00	8,660,025.00	8,632,173.50	-	27,851.50
Health and Human Services	297,011.00	307,011.00	298,965.73	-	8,045.27
Culture and Recreation	314,392.00	314,392.00	300,794.07	-	13,597.93
Insurance and Employee Benefits	1,803,830.00	1,803,830.00	1,659,110.95	-	144,719.05
State Assessments	108,804.00	108,804.00	108,804.00	-	-
Debt Service:					
Principal	390,000.00	390,000.00	390,000.00	-	-
Interest and Fiscal Charges	70,730.00	70,730.00	54,622.88	-	16,107.12
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>17,331,728.00</b>	<b>17,747,921.06</b>	<b>16,932,339.61</b>	<b>192,449.00</b>	<b>623,132.45</b>
<b>Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</b>	<b>(440,681.00)</b>	<b>(856,874.06)</b>	<b>279,862.80</b>	<b>(192,449.00)</b>	<b>944,287.86</b>
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</b>					
Operating Transfers In	277,187.00	287,187.00	308,180.00	-	20,993.00
Operating Transfers (Out)	-	(470,481.94)	(470,481.94)	-	-
<b>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>	<b>277,187.00</b>	<b>(183,294.94)</b>	<b>(162,301.94)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,993.00</b>
<b>Excess of Revenues and Other Financing Sources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Financing Uses</b>	<b>(163,494.00)</b>	<b>(1,040,169.00)</b>	<b>117,560.86</b>	<b>(192,449.00)</b>	<b>965,280.86</b>
<b>Fund Balances, Beginning of Year</b>	<b>1,477,454.36</b>	<b>1,477,454.36</b>	<b>1,477,454.36</b>		
<b>Fund Balances, End of Year</b>	<b>\$ 1,313,960.36</b>	<b>\$ 437,285.36</b>	<b>\$ 1,595,015.22</b>	<b>\$ (192,449.00)</b>	<b>\$ 965,280.86</b>

**TOWN OF SPENCER, MASSACHUSETTS  
COMBINED BALANCE SHEET - ENTERPRISE FUNDS  
JUNE 30, 2015**

	<b>Proprietary Funds</b>		<b>Totals</b>
	<b>Water Enterprise</b>	<b>Sewer Enterprise</b>	<b>(Memorandum Only)</b>
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 831,524.78	\$ 799,218.95	\$ 1,630,743.73
Accounts Receivable:			
User Charges, net of allowance for uncollectibles	29,157.03	46,389.13	75,546.16
Amount to be Provided for Notes/Bonds	6,810,224.33	2,270,000.00	9,080,224.33
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 7,670,906.14</b>	<b>\$ 3,115,608.08</b>	<b>\$ 10,786,514.22</b>
<b>Liabilities and Fund Equity</b>			
<b>Liabilities:</b>			
Deferred Revenue	\$ 29,157.03	\$ 46,389.13	\$ 75,546.16
Due to Others	-	11,000.00	11,000.00
Notes Payable			
Bonds Indebtedness	6,810,224.33	2,270,000.00	9,080,224.33
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>6,839,381.36</b>	<b>2,327,389.13</b>	<b>9,166,770.49</b>
<b>Fund Equity:</b>			
Reserved for Encumbrances	444,861.95	134,755.51	579,617.46
Reserved for Subsequent Years Expenditures	215,000.00	161,453.00	376,453.00
Reserved for Capital	44,986.05	305,256.44	350,242.49
Unreserved:			
Undesignated	126,676.78	186,754.00	313,430.78
<b>Total Fund Equity</b>	<b>831,524.78</b>	<b>788,218.95</b>	<b>1,619,743.73</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Equity</b>	<b>\$ 7,670,906.14</b>	<b>\$ 3,115,608.08</b>	<b>\$ 10,786,514.22</b>

**TOWN OF SPENCER, MASSACHUSETTS  
PROPRIETARY FUNDS  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND NET ASSETS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015**

	Business-Type Activities Enterprise Funds		
	Water Fund	Sewer Fund	Total
<b>Operating Revenues:</b>			
Charges for Services	\$ 1,456,844.97	\$ 867,489.48	\$ 2,324,334.45
Other	35,019.10	376,562.91	411,582.01
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	<u>1,491,864.07</u>	<u>1,244,052.39</u>	<u>2,735,916.46</u>
<b>Operating Expenses:</b>			
Salaries & Wages	339,009.48	285,713.05	624,722.53
Operating Expenses	483,091.27	1,867,731.61	2,350,822.88
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<u>822,100.75</u>	<u>2,153,444.66</u>	<u>2,975,545.41</u>
<b>Operating Income (Loss)</b>	<u>669,763.32</u>	<u>(909,392.27)</u>	<u>(239,628.95)</u>
<b>Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses):</b>			
Interest Income	2,377.78	5,725.53	8,103.31
Debt Principal Payment	(409,408.00)	(225,000.00)	(634,408.00)
Debt Interest Expense	(185,147.56)	(56,712.50)	(241,860.06)
<b>Total Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)</b>	<u>(592,177.78)</u>	<u>(275,986.97)</u>	<u>(868,164.75)</u>
<b>Income (Loss) Before Operating Transfers</b>	<u>77,585.54</u>	<u>(1,185,379.24)</u>	<u>(1,107,793.70)</u>
<b>Operating Transfers:</b>			
Transfer In	-	-	-
Transfers (Out)	(129,922.00)	(147,265.00)	(277,187.00)
<b>Total Operating Transfers</b>	<u>(129,922.00)</u>	<u>(147,265.00)</u>	<u>(277,187.00)</u>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<u>(52,336.46)</u>	<u>(1,332,644.24)</u>	<u>(1,384,980.70)</u>
<b>Net Assets at Beginning of Year</b>	<u>883,861.24</u>	<u>2,120,863.19</u>	<u>3,004,724.43</u>
<b>Net Assets at End of Year</b>	<u>\$ 831,524.78</u>	<u>\$ 788,218.95</u>	<u>\$ 1,619,743.73</u>

**TOWN OF SPENCER, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**  
**NON-MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015**

	Fund Balances July 1, 2014	Revenues	Expenditures	Other Financing Sources (Uses)	Fund Balances June 30, 2015
<b>Special Revenue:</b>					
<b>Federal and State Grants:</b>					
Arts Lottery	\$ 6,059	\$ 5,577	\$ 6,638	\$ -	\$ 4,998
Community Development Block Grant	-	643,689	643,689	-	-
Community Innovation Challenge Grant	52,819	195,250	180,037	-	68,032
Council on Aging Grants	1,337	18,369	17,833	-	1,873
Highway Grants	-	855,675	855,675	-	-
Library Grants	18,205	16,206	13,020	-	21,391
Other Grants and Programs	7,558	11,315	1,775	-	17,098
Public Safety Grants	9,877	63,148	64,487	-	8,538
<b>Other:</b>					
Animal Sterilization Fund	5,218	930	345	-	5,803
Betterment Fund	130,104	6,241	-	-	136,345
Building and Fire Code Fines	2,803	-	-	-	2,803
Cable PEG Access Grant	19,902	126,189	114,717	-	31,374
Clock Restoration Fund	5,270	-	-	-	5,270
Conservation Commission Funds	46,914	9,027	10,082	(10,000)	35,859
Council on Aging Revolving	-	498	-	-	498
Drug Enforcement Fund	1,533	-	-	-	1,533
Flexcon Contribution Fund	42,500	-	36,142	-	6,358
Gifts and Donations	41,237	33,014	18,667	-	55,584
Handicapped Parking Fines	7,721	970	191	-	8,500
Off Duty Revolving	50,016	299,578	285,984	-	63,610
Planning Board Revolving	30,361	2,181	913	-	31,629
Planning Board Subdivision Funds	238,772	188,203	13,983	-	412,992
Excavations and Driveway Permits	32,100	7,500	18,500	-	21,100
Recreation Revolving	59	1,729	-	-	1,788
Reserve for Debt	23,915	25,386	-	(20,993)	28,308
Septic Loan Management Program	108,258	37,043	31,614	-	113,687
Small Farm Preservation	3,000	8,250	11,250	-	-
Small Cities Program Income	74,829	7,082	-	-	81,911
Sugden Building Revolving	160,234	37,907	56,223	-	141,918
Wiring Inspector Revolving	1,144	30,290	25,000	-	6,434
Buy Back Sick Leave Fund	8,796	113	-	8,000	16,909
Police Equipment Fund	7,570	16,121	15,642	-	8,049
<b>Total Special Revenue page 59</b>	<b>\$ 1,138,111</b>	<b>\$ 2,647,481</b>	<b>\$ 2,422,407</b>	<b>\$ (22,993)</b>	<b>\$ 1,340,192</b>

**TOWN OF SPENCER, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**  
**NON-MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015**

	Fund Balances July 1, 2014	Revenues	Expenditures	Other Financing Sources (Uses)	Fund Balances June 30, 2015
Continued from page 59	\$ 1,138,111	\$ 2,647,481	\$ 2,422,407	\$ (22,993)	\$ 1,340,192
<b>Special Revenue (continued):</b>					
Other (continued):					
Spencer World War II Memorial Fund	496	4	-	-	500
Unemployment Fund	26,440	182	-	-	26,622
Waterways Improvement Fund	34,076	3,675	-	-	37,751
<b>Total Special Revenue</b>	<b>1,199,123</b>	<b>2,651,342</b>	<b>2,422,407</b>	<b>(22,993)</b>	<b>1,405,065</b>
<b>Capital Projects:</b>					
David Prouty School Annex	5,245	-	-	-	5,245
FY 2004 Capital Improvement Programs	20,456	-	-	-	20,456
FY 2006 Capital Improvement Programs	2,235	-	-	-	2,235
FY 2007 Capital Improvement Programs	53,666	-	37,809	-	15,857
FY 2008 Capital Improvement Programs	110,823	4,565	55,161	-	60,227
FY 2009 Capital Improvement Programs	133,230	-	-	-	133,230
FY 2010 Capital Improvement Programs	16,390	-	-	-	16,390
FY 2011 Capital Improvement Programs	5,946	-	12,480	9,500	2,966
FY 2012 Capital Improvement Programs	14,789	-	-	(751)	14,038
FY 2013 Capital Improvement Programs	79,406	-	16,138	(69)	63,199
FY 2014 Capital Improvement Programs	338,484	-	314,937	50,000	73,547
FY 2015 Capital Improvement Programs	-	-	2,334	403,802	401,468
School ADA Renovations	345	-	-	-	345
<b>Total Capital Projects:</b>	<b>781,015</b>	<b>4,565</b>	<b>438,859</b>	<b>462,482</b>	<b>809,203</b>
<b>Perpetual Permanent Funds:</b>					
Cemetery Funds	25,575	-	-	-	25,575
Park Funds	6,000	-	-	-	6,000
<b>Total Perpetual Permanent Funds</b>	<b>31,575</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>31,575</b>
<b>Permanent Funds:</b>					
Cemetery Funds	14,366	276	-	-	14,642
Park Funds	19,578	177	-	-	19,755
<b>Total Permanent Funds</b>	<b>33,944</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>34,397</b>
<b>Total Non-Major Governmental Funds</b>	<b>\$ 2,045,657</b>	<b>\$ 2,656,360</b>	<b>\$ 2,861,266</b>	<b>\$ 439,489</b>	<b>\$ 2,280,240</b>

ORG	OBJ	ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANSFERS/ADJ/SMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES AVAILABLE BUDGET	% USED
<b>STATE ASSESSMENTS</b>									
10000	56370	010 -000-000-56370 -	ASSESSMENT RET MU TEACHER	0.00	19,052.00	19,052.00	0.00	19,052.00	0.00
10000	56400	010 -000-000-56400 -	ASSESSMENT-AIR POLLUTION	0.00	2,904.00	2,904.00	0.00	2,904.00	0.00
10000	56630	010 -000-000-56630 -	ASSESSMENT REG TRANSIT AU	0.00	68,068.00	68,068.00	0.00	68,068.00	0.00
10000	56990	010 -000-000-56990 -	RMV MON-RENEWAL SURCHARGE	0.00	18,780.00	18,780.00	0.00	18,780.00	0.00
TOTAL				0.00	108,804.00	108,804.00	0.00	108,804.00	
<b>REVENUES</b>									
10001	41100	010 -000-001-41100 -	PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES	0.00	341,143.91	341,143.91	338,541.11	0.00	2,602.80
10001	41200	010 -000-001-41200 -	REAL ESTATE TAXES	0.00	12,269,006.94	12,269,006.94	12,105,936.93	0.00	163,070.01
10001	41220	010 -000-001-41220 -	ROLLBACK TAX REVENUE	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,019.56	0.00	9,019.56
10001	41400	010 -000-001-41400 -	LOCAL MEALS EXCISE	0.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	101,636.12	0.00	1,636.12
10001	41420	010 -000-001-41420 -	TAX LIENS REDEMPTD	0.00	0.00	0.00	34,300.07	0.00	34,300.07
10001	41500	010 -000-001-41500 -	MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE	0.00	1,190,000.00	1,190,000.00	1,398,715.08	0.00	208,715.08
10001	41600	010 -000-001-41600 -	BOAT EXCISE	0.00	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,600.00	0.00	100.00
10001	41710	010 -000-001-41710 -	PENALTY/INT PROPERTY TAX	0.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	33,932.34	0.00	8,932.34
10001	41720	010 -000-001-41720 -	PENALTY/INT MV EXCISE	0.00	55,000.00	55,000.00	51,527.30	0.00	3,472.70
10001	41730	010 -000-001-41730 -	PENALTY/INT TAX LIEN	0.00	16,000.00	16,000.00	1,967.74	0.00	12,032.26
10001	41740	010 -000-001-41740 -	FEES - MARK FEES	0.00	17,000.00	17,000.00	39,040.00	0.00	2,040.00
10001	41750	010 -000-001-41750 -	INTEREST & FEES-BETTERMNT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10001	42455	010 -000-001-42455 -	FEES-TRANS.STA STICKERS	0.00	95,000.00	95,000.00	90,425.00	0.00	4,575.00
10001	42465	010 -000-001-42465 -	FEES-TRANS.STA BNG SALES	0.00	187,500.00	187,500.00	220,322.50	0.00	32,822.50
10001	42470	010 -000-001-42470 -	FEES-TRANSF.STAT-FLEXCON	0.00	14,000.00	14,000.00	13,568.17	0.00	431.83
10001	42480	010 -000-001-42480 -	FEES-TRANSF.STAT-OTHER	0.00	14,000.00	14,000.00	13,253.00	0.00	747.00
10001	42485	010 -000-001-42485 -	FEES-TRANS.STA RECYCLED MATER	0.00	14,000.00	14,000.00	12,831.08	0.00	1,168.92
10001	42700	010 -000-001-42700 -	FEES-SPD LOCK-UP	0.00	6,500.00	6,500.00	4,875.00	0.00	1,625.00
10001	43210	010 -000-001-43210 -	FEES-MUNICIPAL LIENS	0.00	11,500.00	11,500.00	16,800.00	0.00	5,300.00
10001	43230	010 -000-001-43230 -	FEES-PERMIT-ODIS	0.00	125,000.00	125,000.00	113,983.69	0.00	11,016.31
10001	43260	010 -000-001-43260 -	FEES-TOWN CLERK	0.00	19,500.00	19,500.00	18,852.65	0.00	647.35
10001	43270	010 -000-001-43270 -	FEES-POLICE DEPT	0.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,000.50	0.00	499.50
10001	43290	010 -000-001-43290 -	FEES-SPD 21E	0.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	2,420.14	0.00	1,579.86
10001	43291	010 -000-001-43291 -	FEES-HIGHWAY GAS	0.00	21,000.00	21,000.00	17,947.23	0.00	3,052.77
10001	43296	010 -000-001-43296 -	FEES-HEALTH SELECTMEN	0.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	11,045.00	0.00	955.00
10001	44100	010 -000-001-44100 -	LIC/PER-ALCOHOLIC	0.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	4,800.00	0.00	2,300.00
10001	44200	010 -000-001-44200 -	LIC/PER-CABLE	0.00	16,000.00	16,000.00	20,023.92	0.00	4,023.92
10001	44210	010 -000-001-44210 -	LIC/PER-SELECTMEN	0.00	1,887.00	1,887.00	11,471.69	0.00	9,584.69
10001	44215	010 -000-001-44215 -	LIC/PER-DOGS	0.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	5,340.00	0.00	660.00
10001	44400	010 -000-001-44400 -	LIC/PER-BOARD OF HEALTH	0.00	22,000.00	22,000.00	21,441.00	0.00	559.00
10001	44470	010 -000-001-44470 -	LIC/PER-FIRE DEPT	0.00	61,000.00	61,000.00	69,402.55	0.00	8,402.55
10001	44500	010 -000-001-44500 -	LIC/PER-POLICE DEPT	0.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	16,621.70	0.00	1,621.70
10001	46900	010 -000-001-46900 -	FINES DMV	0.00	9,500.00	9,500.00	5,550.00	0.00	3,950.00
10001	46950	010 -000-001-46950 -	FINES COURT	0.00	22,000.00	22,000.00	12,010.49	0.00	10,989.51
10001	47750	010 -000-001-47750 -	FINES PARKING	0.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	0.00	0.00	6,000.00
10001	47755	010 -000-001-47755 -	FINES-SPD GEN	0.00	4,500.00	4,500.00	5,913.75	0.00	1,413.75
10001	47760	010 -000-001-47760 -	FINES-SPD ANIM CONTROL	0.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	5,259.00	0.00	1,259.00
10001	47765	010 -000-001-47765 -	FINES-B.O.H.	0.00	300.00	300.00	3,872.00	0.00	3,572.00
10001	47775	010 -000-001-47775 -	FINES-VIOLATIONS HIGHWAY	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	200.00
10001	47780	010 -000-001-47780 -	FINES-VIOLATIONS FIRE	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	50.00
10001	48185	010 -000-001-48185 -	EARNINGS-VALLEY VIEW	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	700.33	0.00	299.67
10001	48200	010 -000-001-48200 -	EARNINGS-INVESTMENTS	0.00	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,440.56	0.00	59.44
10001	48400	010 -000-001-48400 -	OTHER MISC REVENUES	0.00	0.00	0.00	103,273.90	0.00	103,273.90
10001	49990	010 -000-001-49990 -	SALE OF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT	0.00	0.00	0.00	579.00	0.00	579.00
TOTAL REVENUES				0.00	14,722,137.85	14,722,137.85	14,912,990.10	0.00	210,852.25







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## TOWN TREASURER

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December 31, 2015

### Interest Bearing Checking Accounts:

Eastern Bank-Vendor Account	5.65
Santander Bank-Escrow We Care	5,577.13
Santander Bank-Sullivan	30,870.13
Century Bank-Deer Run Phase I	9,036.40
Century Bank Deer Run phase II	194,365.41
Unibank Lock Box	39.06
Unibank-Payroll	50,232.89
Century lockbox	2,028.98
Southbridge Savings Bixby Trail Estates	36,083.82
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$328,239.47</b>

### Liquid Investments:

Eastern Bank- Money Market	7,083.35
Santander Bank-Depository Account treas	198,969.38
Santander Bank-Depository Account coll	8,412.04
Southbridge Savings Bank money market	404,782.73
Century money market	100,976.41
Bartholomew-TitleV	85,784.75
Bartholomew-general cash	54,007.24
Unibank-Money Market	1,083,220.63
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,943,236.53</b>

### Trust Funds:

	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Fund Total</b>
Bartholomew-Benjamin Drury	500.00	2,884.76	3,384.76
Bartholomew-George S Wilson Cemetery	259.07	1,164.55	1,423.62
Bartholomew-Howe Memorial	500.00	8,917.94	9,417.94
Bartholomew-Isaac Lothrop Prouty	5,063.75	14,329.76	19,393.51
Bartholomew-Old Cemetery General Care	5,923.00	482.60	6,405.60
Bartholomew-Old Cemetery perpetual Care	11,975.00	2,495.19	14,470.19
Bartholomew-old Cemetery perpetual W			
Curtis	1,000.00	2,875.20	3,875.20
Bartholomew-Quinn Scholarship	3,500.00	10,385.66	13,885.66
Bartholomew-Richard Sugden public park	1,000.00	5,391.61	6,391.61
Bartholomew-Silas Grout Decoration	1,200.00	4,244.53	5,444.53
Bartholomew-Buy Back Sick Leave Fund			1,063.51
Bartholomew-Friends of Old Cemetery			597.49
Bartholomew-Police Equipment Fund			8,672.69
Bartholomew-Unemployment			25,596.74
Bartholomew-War Veterans Account			500.35
Bartholomew-Waterways improvement			37,816.42
Bartholomew-Old Cemetery G Henry Wilson			4,074.52
Bartholomew-Retirement Liability			1,057.02
Bartholomew-Community Development			85,388.95

Bartholomew-Cultural Council	4,192.72
Bartholomew-Sugden Block Revolving	147,674.97
Bartholomew-Betterment Fund	136,506.11
Bartholomew-Capital Stabilization	451.35
Bartholomew-Land Acquisition Stabilization	101,710.49
Southbridge Savings Bank Stabilization	1,073,095.83
Century Bank-Sewer Enterprise Fund	982,872.29
Century Bank-Water Enterprise Fund	946,244.30
Southbridge Savings Bank Building Stabilization	
Sanander Bank-Treasurers' Benefit Account	2,843.18

Total	<b>\$3,644,849.98</b>
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<b>Total All Cash and Investments</b>	<b>\$5,916,325.98</b>
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Susan L. Lacaire  
Treasurer

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**TOWN COLLECTOR**

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Personal Property and Real Estate	\$	12,670,413.98
Betterments	\$	46,590.24
Motor Vehicle & Boat Excise	\$	1,379,526.43
Waterand Water Fees	\$	1,498,121.09
Sewer and Sewer Fees	\$	881,018.64
Interest & Fees & Demands	\$	122,051.30
Certificate of Municipal Liens	\$	21,700.00
Trash Bags	\$	241,447.50
Rent-Sudgen Block	\$	56,857.75
Tax Title and Fees	\$	32,055.98
Transfer Station Stickers	\$	12,125.00
Vitals	\$	1,233.25
Dog	\$	5,064.00
Hwy Gas	\$	13,576.66
Septic	\$	323,866.50
Off Duty	\$	179,027.00

Total Turned Over to Treasurer	\$	17,484,675.32
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<b>Total Turned Over to Treasurer</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>17,113,163.76</b>
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**Susan L. Lacaire, Collector**

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## BOARD OF ASSESSORS

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The Board meets on the third Monday of each month at 6:15 P.M. in the Assessors' Office at the Town Hall located at 157 Main Street. The Board of Assessors is available by appointment to discuss values.

In Fiscal year 2016 an interim year adjustment was conducted as mandated by the Mass. Dept. of Revenue. Market sales are the indicator of what values should be and analysis is done to determine updated values that are certified by the State Department of Revenue.

### LOCAL EXPENDITURES

Appropriations	\$22,231,073.44
Offsets	\$16,066.00
State & County Charges	\$116,858.00
Overlay	\$106,870.07
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE RAISED</b>	<b>\$22,470,867.51</b>

### ESTIMATED RECEIPTS AND OTHER REVENUE SOURCES

Cherry Sheet Estimated Receipts	\$2,388,188.00
Local Estimated Receipts	\$2,158,354.00
Enterprise Funds	\$3,499,670.71
Other Available Funds	\$214,819.79
Free Cash	\$1,120,481.94
Bond Premium	\$46,710.00
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$9,428,224.44</b>
<b>NET AMOUNT TO BE RAISED</b>	<b>\$13,042,643.07</b>

### CLASSIFIED PERCENTAGES

	LEVY PERCENTAGE	LEVY BY CLASS
RESIDENTIAL	86.5193%	\$789,670,890
OPEN SPACE	0	
COMMERCIAL	6.6927%	\$61,084,848
INDUSTRIAL	4.0217%	\$36,706,809
PERSONAL PROPERTY	2.7663%	\$25,248,654
	100.00%	<b>\$ 912,711,201</b>

<b>NET AMOUNT TO BE RAISED / TOTAL VALUATION</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>TAX RATE FY2016</b>
<b>\$13,042,643.07 / \$912,711,201</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>\$14.29</b>

Respectfully submitted,

Linda LeBlanc, Assessor  
Jeremey L. Snow  
Maureen A. Hatch  
David R. Derosier  
Board of Assessors

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## BOARD OF SELECTMEN - LICENSING

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The following categories of licenses were issued by the Office of the Board of Selectmen during 2015:

❖ Alcohol	19
❖ Automatic Amusement	4
❖ Common Victualler	41
❖ Entertainment	9
❖ Gravel Licenses	8
❖ Junk Dealer	5
❖ Lodging House	2
❖ Inn Holder	3
❖ Class I (Motor Vehicles)	3
❖ Class II (Motor Vehicles)	10
❖ Class III (Motor Vehicles)	1

Total Licenses issued in 2015: **105**

Total License fees collected in 2014: **\$22,650.00**

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## SPENCER CABLE ACCESS

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Spencer Cable Access (SCA) is an independently operated 501(c) (3) corporation that implements public access television programming for the Town of Spencer. SCA continues to fulfill its mission to give the community a voice and a resource for sharing ideas, creativity, and a way to get connected with our town. SCA can be viewed on Charter Communications channels 191 (community bulletin board), 192 (public interest programming), and 194 (government programming).

In 2015, the SCA Board of Directors voted to create the infrastructure to broadcast and stream live meetings from the town hall. As part of this action, the television equipment in the McCourt Social Hall was upgraded and a fiber line was connected from the Town Hall to the SCA studio. Board of Selectmen meetings are expected to begin live broadcast in late winter/early spring 2016.

A feedback survey was deployed as part of the annual town census so that SCA could gather important feedback from town residents and viewers about the types of programs they desire. As of this writing, we have received a 25% response and the feedback has been very informative. The full results of the survey will be made available toward the end of March 2016.

In an effort to cover more town events and government meetings, SCA will focus on expanding the pool of volunteers by offering a stipend to those who participate. We hope to cover all meetings in the McCourt Social Hall including Zoning Board of Appeals and Conservation Commission. Those who are interested in joining our team or would like more information can visit [SCATV.org/Join](http://SCATV.org/Join).

Members of the community are also encouraged to take advantage of our Community Bulletin Board by submitting announcements to [SCATV.org/bulletin](http://SCATV.org/bulletin).

Finally, we wish to thank Beth McPherson for her ten-plus years of devoted service to Spencer Cable Access. She volunteered in every capacity, producing original programming, covering Town Meetings, programming our television schedule, and updating our community bulletin board. Beth retired from SCA in October 2015.

Aaron Keyes  
Station Manager



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## CHARITABLE NEEDS COMMISSION

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We, the Commission, have financially helped 121 cases in the year 2015. We have also donated to four local churches to help meet the needs of the residents of Spencer.

Commission Members:

Barbara E. Grusell	Chair
David L. Ingalls	Secretary
Paulette B. LeBlanc	Member
Paul G. LaMontagne	Member
Linda Gould	Member

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## COUNCIL ON AGING

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*The mission of the Spencer Council on Aging is to seek to enrich the lives of the community's senior population by providing educational programs, recreational activities, referral and social service assistance and to advocate for the seniors while educating the community of the needs of its elders.*

The Council on Aging continues to increase its programming, services and activities. Our office and senior center hours are currently 9 am to 3 pm Monday through Thursday. Our goal is to keep seniors in the community with an emphasis on wellness. We offer a wellness clinic and two blood pressure screenings monthly. We also provide yoga, exercise, beginner and advanced line dancing, tai chi classes, cribbage, and bingo.

We provide referrals for many different senior needs as well as assistance with extra help for Medicare, applications for MassHealth, Prescription Advantage, Food Stamps, Housing, etc. for seniors. There are now over 2700 seniors in town. We had an average of 8000 participants in our programs last year with 4800 newsletters distributed annually. The CoA serves as the only public social service agency and assists numerous non-elders in accessing public benefits and may also serve as a link to and support for elders and their families in the event of local emergencies.

After many years of renting space, the Council on Aging finally has a permanent home. With the help of the Worcester County Sheriff's department, the basement of the abandoned Maple St. School became our home after cleaning and painting the entire floor. It is a bright, welcoming space and programs have grown in attendance. We serve hot lunches on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:30 am; the cost is a voluntary donation. If interested in lunch, please call the center 48 hours in advance to make reservations. The menu is listed in the Grapevine Newsletter which is distributed monthly at different locations throughout Town or by visiting our website at [www.spencerma.gov](http://www.spencerma.gov) and clicking on the Council on Aging under the Departments tab.

In other news, we've been approved to be an RMV Host Site. This new service will be provided beginning on January 1, 2016 and will allow the renewal of driver's licenses for Spencer residents 74 years old and under, placard forms, change of address, duplicate licenses and registration renewals. Please call the Center for an appointment and have a credit card available. Why wait in line at the RMV? Come to the senior center.

Please feel free to visit us at 68 Maple Street, or call 508-885-7546 for assistance or information.

Pamela Woodbury,  
Director

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## CULTURAL COUNCIL

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The Spencer Cultural Council received a grant of \$6,100 from the Massachusetts Cultural Council for the year 2015. The money from the grant was awarded for programs by artists and performers who submitted grant applications to the Council in October of 2015.

The purpose of the Cultural Council is to promote the arts, sciences and humanities in order to provide a rich cultural experience for the citizens of Spencer. The Cultural Council is looking for new members.

If you are interested in applying for a grant as an artist or musician or to bring a Massachusetts performer to your organization check the website, [http://www.mass-culture.org/lcc\\_public.aspx](http://www.mass-culture.org/lcc_public.aspx) for more information.

Elizabeth Small, Chair  
Joan Eccleston  
Linda Stanley  
Louise Small  
Deborah Bailey  
Nicole Boucher  
Cheryl Tutlis  
Elizabeth Small  
Rachel Faugno  
Diane Johnson

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**OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT & INSPECTIONAL SERVICES**  
**TOWN PLANNER/PLANNING BOARD**  
**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**BOARD of HEALTH & BUILDING INSPECTOR**

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This office provides support for the Board of Health, Conservation Commission, Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals. Our office staff includes two Clerks, one fulltime and one part-time, Town Planner, Health Agent, Building Inspector, Wetland/Soil Specialist, Animal Inspector, Gas, Wiring and Plumbing Inspectors, and the Sealer of Weights & Measures.

The Department saw a major change in 2015 as our part time planner Michelle Buck left for a full time position in Leicester. This position was filled with a consultant Larry Smith working one day a week. We also received a 2015 Ford Focus total electric vehicle (grant written by Steve Tyler-U & F Dept.) for use by the Inspectors.

The Department welcomes two new employees Board of Health member Robert Bradshaw & Animal Inspector Joelyn Durgin due to the retirement of long time serving BOH elected member Lynda Laine & appointed Animal Inspectors Carol & Peter Gaucher.

The following are the reports from the individual departments in ODIS:

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**TOWN PLANNER**

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2015 projects included the following:

- Reviewed and prepared decisions for all Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals applications
- Researched and drafted potential Zoning Bylaw amendments relative to driveways, tattoo parlors, fences, Table of Uses and solar facilities
- Revised Stormwater Permit Regulations
- CMRPC Priority Development Area Town Center study completed

Larry Smith  
Town Planner

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## PLANNING BOARD

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The Planning Board held meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month during 2015.

The Board received the following Site Plan Review, Stormwater Permit and Special Permit applications in 2015:

<b>2015 Site Plan &amp; Special Permit Applications</b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
ZPT Energy Solutions, LLC – solar farm - 48 Paxton Road	4500 panel ground mounted solar facility	Public Hearing continued
ZPT Energy Solutions, LLC, - solar farm - 19 Woodchuck Lane	4500 panel ground mounted solar facility	Public Hearing continued

<b>Status of Prior Year Site Plan Review &amp; Special Permit Approvals</b>		
<b>Project</b> (year approved)	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Meadow Solar Farm	3MW ground mounted solar facility on 24.5 acre parcel	Application Withdrawn Without Prejudice
Abbey Solar Farm (2014)	15.7MW± ground mounted solar facility totaling approximately 1,488 acres.	Project under construction
New England Automotive Gateway (2013)	Auto processing facility (rail and vehicle bay expansion)	Under construction: Extension approved to July 16, 2016
Treadwell/Old Wardour Holdings, LLC (2013)	6.0 MW ground mounted solar facility (solar farm)	Project started with Minor Plan Changes: Extension approved to July 16, 2016

<b>2015 Stormwater Permit Applications (stand alone)</b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Robert Moschini	Clear 14 acres of trees for agricultural purposes	Approved with Conditions
James LaLiberte, 195 Charlton Road	Convert 5-6 acre clearing to pasture for horse riding	Approved with Conditions

The housing market remained slow during 2015, although there has been an increase in ANR building lots created. There were 12 ANR Plans approved by the Board creating/effecting 16 lots (several were lot line revisions of existing lots) compared to 20 ANR building lots in 2014, 12 in 2013 and 2 in 2012. No new residential subdivision applications were submitted. The status of residential projects is summarized in the table below.

<b>Residential Project Status 2015</b> (approval dates in parentheses)	
<b>Under Construction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sunset-Holmes (2005) - extended to October 31, 2016</li> <li>• Bixby Trail Estates (2008)</li> </ul>
<b>Partially Complete – In Default</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deer Run, Phase 1 (2002)</li> <li>• Deer Run, Phase 2 (2005)</li> <li>• Richland Avenue (2004)</li> <li>• Sullivan Estates (2004)</li> </ul>
<b>Partially completed – Inactive</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laureldale Woods, Phase 1 (2000)</li> </ul>
<b>Construction Not Started</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candlewood Estates, Phase 2 (2007)</li> <li>• Laureldale Woods, Phase 2 (2006)</li> </ul>
<b>Approval Expired</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rolling Ridge Estates (2006)</li> <li>• Pine Cliff Condos (2009)</li> </ul>

The Planning Board extends their thanks to Town Boards, Commissions, Officials and employees who have provided assistance and support in planning issues this past year.

Planning Board Member James Whalen resigned in 2015.

Robert Ceppi, Chair  
Jonathan Viner, Vice-Chair  
Maria Reed  
Shirley Shiver

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## ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

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The Zoning Board of Appeals held meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month in 2015 to hear petitions on Variances, Special Permits, and Appeals. The Board had 18 applications in 2015, compared to 9 in 2014, 8 in 2013 and 11 in 2012. Results are shown below:

<u>Variances</u>		<u>Special Permits</u>	
Granted	0	Granted	8
Denied	1	Denied	0
Withdrawn	0	Withdrawn	1
Extensions	1	Extensions	1
Continued to 2015	0	Continued to 2015	6

<b>2015 ZBA Applications</b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Robert Beaudin - 95 Wilson Avenue	Special Permit - garage	Approved
Robert Ceppi - 15 Marble Road	Special Permit (2014) Modification/Extension – parking commercial vehicles	Approved extension to 8/12/2015
Richard Cormier - 8 High Street	Variance Extension	Approved extension to 3/11/2016
Kim & Joe Foley - 15 N. Brookfield Road	Special Permit - dog kennel and pet grooming	Approved
Robert Del Frate - 16 & 21 Valley Street:	Special Permit - manufacturing and distribution of picture frames	Approved
Rebecca J. Pond - 1 Terkanian Drive	Special Permit- Kennel/Pet Grooming	Approved
Carl and Ashley Nelson - 9 West Avenue	Special Permit for Expansion of Nonconformity - extension of a non-conforming use (multiple dwellings on a single lot),	Approved
John Tebo - 93 Pleasant Street	Variance – setbacks and lot coverage	Disapproved
James Sielis - Lot 6A Richland Ave	Special Permit - to build a new home with an in-law apartment.	Withdrawn Without Prejudice
Brydi Ricard - 52 Chestnut Street	Special Permit - Body Art Establishment	Public Hearing Continued to April 12, 2016
Leo Aucoin - 89 Cranberry Meadow Road	Special Permit Extension - gravel removal operation	Approved
Theodore Antanavica - 35 Point Eastalee Dr.	Special Permit - addition on a pre-existing nonconforming structure	Approved
Josh and Eric Buzzell - 131 West Main St.	Special Permit - sell used cars and trucks	Approved

<b>2015 ZBA Applications</b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Nicola Viapiano - 8 Laurel Lane	Special Permit - single family home on a non-conforming lot	Public Hearing continued
Paul Vandale - 20 Sherwood Drive	Special Permit - accessory apartment	Public Hearing continued
Jenner Renewable Holdings (Solar), Inc - Treadwell Drive	Special Permit - ground mounted solar facility	Public Hearing continued
ZPT Energy Solutions, LLC - 48 Paxton Road	Special Permit - 4500 panel ground mounted solar facility	Public Hearing continued
ZPT Energy Solutions, LLC - 19 Woodchuck Lane	Special Permit - 4500 panel ground mounted solar facility	Public Hearing continued

Albert Drexler resigned from the Board. The Board wishes to thank other Town Boards and Commissions and all Town staff and officials who have provided assistance to the Board during the year.

Robert Emerson, Chair  
Delores Kresco, Clerk  
Allan Collette



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## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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The Spencer Conservation Commission normally meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of each month to review and decide on Notices of Intent, Requests for Determinations of Applicability, and other issues related to the conservation of wetlands in the Town. Protected resource areas include ponds, rivers, streams, bordering vegetated wetlands and flood plains.

Staff inspected all the gravel removal operations in Town, as ODIS prepared advisory reports on all aspects of the regulatory process for the Board of Selectmen prior to their annual license renewals in November.

The Commission thanks all the Town Boards, Volunteers and Staff who have provided support in the Conservation Commission's efforts this past year.

Notice of Intent:	24
Requests for Determinations:	25
Orders of Conditions issued:	13
Negative Determinations issued:	21
Certificates of Compliance issued:	18
Partial Certificate of Compliance:	1
Extensions issued:	2
Notice of Violations:	10
Enforcement Order issued:	4
<b>Total inspections:</b>	<b>86</b>

Mary McLaughlin, Chair  
Margaret Emerson  
Warren Snow  
Dana Reed  
James Bouley  
John Haverty  
Brian Graeff

Margaret Washburn, Wetland/Soil Specialist

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## BOARD OF HEALTH

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The Board of Health during 2015 has provided not only the basic health services (inspections) but also held two flu clinics, investigated one food borne illness case, was chosen by the FDA to participate in a national study of foodservice operations at health care facilities, revised the Emergency Dispensing Plan for an outbreak of illness, revised and passed new trash hauler regulations, and participated in the State Attorney General's Abandoned Housing Initiative Program. The Agent also inspected several weekend events that included 33 Food Establishments (not including the Spencer Fair). The BOH also received several grants from Region 2 Health Homeland Security Council (Color printer w/supplies, ID maker supplies, ID maker service contract & cellular service for the 2 IPADS) totaling \$7,438.00.

Sincerely,

Lynda G. Laine  
Rodney L. Foisy  
Daniel C. Shields  
Robert James Bradshaw Jr.

❖ Foodservice inspections	23
❖ Retail Food Inspections	18
❖ Percolation/deep hold testing	30
❖ Septic Plan reviews	39
❖ Local Upgrade Hearings	12
❖ Septic Install Inspections:	61
❖ As Built Reviews & Cert. issued	25
❖ Title 5 report reviews	40
❖ Well Permits issues	7
❖ Tobacco Compliance Checks	6
❖ Pet Store Inspections	1
❖ Gym/Health Club	2
❖ Camp Inspections	4
❖ Housing Inspections	52
❖ Housing Court	7
❖ Nuisance Complaints	61
❖ Rabies Investigations	4
❖ Special Event inspections	33
❖ Spencer Fair Food Booths ( 47x4days)	188
❖ Bathing Beach Inspections	4
❖ Bathing Beach quality report reviews	22
❖ Beaver Complaints/permits	7
❖ Region 2 Meetings Attended	12
❖ Training Classes/Seminars	4

<b>Total Inspections:</b>	<b>662</b>
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## BUILDING DEPARTMENT

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### Permit Activity:

Single Family Dwellings	16
Multi-Family Buildings	42
Commercial	12
Additions	4
Renovations/Alterations	20
Sheet Metal	10
Insulation/Weatherization	21
Garages/Barns	29
Decks/Porches	21
Sheds	3
Roofing/Siding	95
Above Ground Pools	7
In Ground Pools	0
Signs	18
Solid Fuel Appliances	40
Windows/Doors	24
Demolitions	17
Temporary Trailers	0
Foundations	2
Certificate of Inspections	54
Solar Panels	93
Miscellaneous	3
Total permits issued	531
<b>Fees Collected</b>	<b>\$257,798.73</b>

### Gas Inspector

Permits issued	101
Inspections	90
Fees Collected	\$7,496

### Wiring Inspector

Permits issued	321
Inspections	417
Fire Calls	5
<b>Fees Collected</b>	<b>\$50,058.50</b>

**Plumbing Inspector**

Permits issued	101
Inspections	108
Fees Collected	<b>\$8,992.50</b>

**Sealer of Weights and Measures**

Tested and Sealed	247 Devices
<b>Fees collected</b>	<b>\$3,625.00</b>

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## **DISABILITY COMMISSION**

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The goal of the Spencer Disability Commission is to improve public access for individuals with mobility disabilities and to expand community awareness surrounding disability issues. The Commission is currently looking for volunteers. If interested, please contact Disability Commission Chairman, Gary Woodbury, or the Town Administrator's Office at 508-885-7500 ext 155.

Gary Woodbury, Chair

Jeanne Desmarais  
William Shemeth, III  
Anne Snow

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## FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES

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We continue to provide first class service to the citizens and visitors to the Town of Spencer and to those neighboring communities looking for assistance in their time of need. First and foremost I must thank the Firefighters and Emergency Management personnel for dedicating their busy lives to assist their fellow man in times of disaster. I also want to thank the families of those same people to allow them to participate in these demanding professions that keep people safe.

Spencer has the largest amount of building fires in the area and for that we rely heavily upon our neighbors for assistance, especially Leicester. We are grateful to have such responsive neighboring Fire Department that assists us on a daily basis. Without their support and continued assistance especially during the day, we would be unable to protect our citizens with the limited staff available during the day. The last call for 2015 was a 5 alarm barn and house fire on Main Street that required the assistance of Fire Departments from 7 other communities. Regionalization for Fire Departments has been an ongoing endeavor for many years. We continue to train and equip our personnel so that when needed they will be highly trained and skilled to do any job placed in front of them. We continue to respond to a variety of incidents and are considered the can do and catch all department. All hazards are what Fire Departments are today. That said, due to budget cuts over the last few years, our training is down and we sadly had to eliminate our specialized rescue training ie: dive team, confined space and high angle as examples. We now will rely on mutual aid from the Fire District 7 Tech Rescue Teams but these do take time to assemble and respond.

Grants are something we apply for each year. We have been working diligently each year on applying for every grant that become available. These grants are extremely competitive and are becoming scarce as funding for grants is drying up. We have been successful this past year with the following grants: Citizen Corps for \$2,500.00, Emergency Management Performance Grant for \$9,880.00 which we were able to purchase which and install a generator for the Fire Department Annex building. As well as a grant for our Students Awareness of Fire Safety Program for \$4,423.00. We were extremely proud that we were successful in obtaining a Firefighters Assistance Grant of \$122,524.00 to purchase the portable radios and pagers so desperately needed by the Fire and Emergency Services Departments. The Town also contributed a match amount to build our the VHF System for them to all work that was phase two of the Communications build out for the community. Phase three will be the final phase to build the Utilities and Facilities Departments.

The Massachusetts Firefighting Academy has now taken over training of recruits in November of 2015 at our station free of charge to the Fire District. We have four recruits in this program as of this report. We encourage any townspeople interested in serving their community to come down and fill out an application at the fire station as we always need volunteers. One of the biggest fallacies I always hear is that our Department is full time. People in the community do not understand that we are a call/volunteer department not full time. The only full time staff is the Chief. Come down at any time to be educated on the workings of the Fire Department and how it saves the community thousands of dollars each year through volunteer work provided by our firefighters.

This past year we have seen some of our people retire and some move away; we will miss them and wish them the best. We welcomed a few new people and thank them for coming aboard and sharing their valuable time with us. We continue to take applications for both the Fire Department and Emergency Management Department.

## **Current Roster:**

**Fire Chief:** Robert Parsons

**Deputy Chief:** William Locke

**SEMA Director of Operations:** Sandra Fritze

**Chaplain:** Rev. Ralph DiChiaria

**Clerk:** Stephanie Wachewski

**Custodian:** Donald Churchey

**Photographer:** Tammie Gebo-Gadbois

**Ladder 1:** Captain Robert Churchey, Lt Jason Ferreira, Firefighter Brian Barber, Firefighter Albert Forand, Firefighter Adam German, Firefighter Travis Reilly, Firefighter Zachary Spencer, Firefighter Thomas Parsons.

**Engine 2:** Captain Michael Gadbois, Lt. Brian Mathon, Firefighter David Hoyt, Firefighter Kevin Kennedy, Firefighter Patrick Gorham, Firefighter Mark Gustafson, Firefighter Andrew Bellizzi, Firefighter Anthony Gianfriddo, Firefighter Christopher Fenner.

**Engine 3:** Captain Joshua Gaucher, Lt. Jonathan Thibault, Firefighter Robert Bradshaw, Firefighter David Daoust, Captain Patrick Donohue, Firefighter John Dymek, Firefighter Jeremy Levitan, Firefighter Joseph Brodmerkle.

**Engine 4:** Captain Corey Lacaire, Lt Joseph Nanigian, Firefighter Joshua Blodgett, Firefighter Lee Churchey, Firefighter Ralph Kirouac, Firefighter Glenn Maffei, Firefighter Corey Phoenix, Firefighter Jeremy Feldman, Firefighter Stefanie Zukowski.

**Spencer Emergency Management:** Tracey Bradshaw, Catherin Ann Driscoll, Christine Gagne, John Gagne, Michael Hilow, Rosanne Ingalls, Michael Natale, Sheri Kaiser, Suzanne Lavallee, Megan Mathon, Sheila Phoenix, Kathi Pratt, Al Roussin, Craig Trotto, Samantha Trotto, Stephen Trotto, Jeffrey Zukowski

The following left the Department through either retirement or resignation: Neal Goyette, Allyson Jette, James Lapierre, Kimberly Merkel, Mary Ann McLaughlin, Adam Woodis and Sean Swett.

## **Apparatus:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Condition</b>
Ladder 1	2010 Smeal	Excellent
Engine 1	1972 Mack	Fair
Engine 2	2014 SMEAL	Excellent
Engine 3	1986 Maxim	Good
Engine 4	1995 E-One/International	Good
Tanker 1	2005 4-Guys/International	Good
Rescue 1	1990 E-One/GMC	Good
Forestry 1	2005 Ford F-350	Good
Forestry 2	1984 K30	Fair
Car 1	2012 Ford Expedition	Excellent
Car 2	2005 Ford Explorer	Good
CD1 SEMA	2004 Ford E-450	Good

In 2014, the former Engine 2, 1998 Freightliner was removed from service due to a split frame rail and a pump failure. Since the cost to repair was worth 10 times the worth of the 16 year old vehicle the decision, after a long time deliberating with the Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen and numerous public meetings, was to retire the vehicle and to lease a demonstrator vehicle that we could purchase quickly to limit our liability in being down an engine. In May of 2015 we took delivery of a demonstrator engine from Smeal Fire Apparatus and as of this writing it has responded to 101 incidents in and around Spencer and is our primary mutual aid engine. We must continue to support the capital plan to ensure the safety of our engines. We continue to work with the funds we have to maintain them in the best possible shape.

In closing, I would like to thank all town officials for their support and assistance throughout the year, especially Town Administrator Adam Gaudette. Without this support we would not be able to continue to provide outstanding assistance to the community.

Robert Parsons,  
Fire Chief

### **Total alarms for service 456**

#### **FIRES**

Building Fires	25
Cooking Fires	41
Chimney Fires	5
Passenger Vehicles Fires	5
Grass/Brush Fires	24
Other Fires	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>

#### **RESCUE, EMS ASSIST**

Medical assist EMS crew	6
Vehicle accident with injuries	2
Extrications	8
Water/Ice Incident	1
Other Rescues	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>

#### **HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS**

Gas/Flammable liquids spills	17
Accident cleanup	36
Chemical spill or leak	0
Power lines down	7
Arcing/shorted electrical equipment	6
Electrical/wiring problem	1
Carbon monoxide incidents	6
Other hazardous conditions	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>77</b>



**SERVICE CALLS**

Water Problems	11
Public Service Assistance	9
Unauthorized burning	29
Other service calls	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>

**GOOD INTENT CALLS**

Smoke scare/odor	16
Other good intent calls	28
<b>Total</b>	<b>44</b>

**FALSE ALARM AND FALSE CALLS**

System malfunction	12
Sprinkler activation	3
Smoke detector activation	46
Alarm sounded/malfunction	10
CO detector activations	9
Other false alarms	41
<b>Total</b>	<b>121</b>

**SEVERE WEATHER STAND BY**

Severe weather or natural disaster	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>

**PERMITS/INSPECTIONS** **572**

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## HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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The Spencer Historical Commission has completed another productive year serving the Spencer community. We would like to thank all who have helped us along the way; your support of our efforts is greatly appreciated. We are dedicated to preserving Spencer's rich history. The Commission's goal is to protect and preserve the historic, cultural, and environmental features that are important components of Spencer's heritage. We collect and preserve both information and physical items pertaining to Spencer's history and accept donations of an historic nature for our collection of artifacts. Family histories and photos of Spencer's past are especially treasured.

2015 was an exciting year for the Commission. In October, the Massachusetts Historical Commission approved the Barnes-Hill House constructed circa 1790 by David Barnes for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The nomination will be submitted to the National Register of Historic Places at the National Park Service in Washington, DC, for final consideration.

A Plaque of Appreciation was presented to Anna Maria Hughes for 35 Years of Service on the Commission by the Board of Selectmen to thank her for her service and numerous accomplishments during those years. Mrs. Hughes remains an honorary member of the Commission.

Please check the meeting calendar on the website at [www.spencerma.gov](http://www.spencerma.gov) for our meeting dates. Meetings will no longer be held during December, January, or February.

Jeanne Desmarais, Chair  
Helen Barnes, Vice Chair  
J. Richard Sherman, Jr.  
Francis T. Lochner  
Danielle Gebo  
Anna Maria Hughes, Honorary Member

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## HOUSING AUTHORITY

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The Spencer Housing Authority manages Projects 667-1 and 667-2 known as “Howe Village”. Our eighty-four 667-1 units were built in 1970 and 667-2 was added in 1975 providing an additional sixty units for a total of one hundred and forty-four one-bedroom units for the elderly and handicapped. Included in the 667-2 Project were four units especially designed for handicapped tenants. Also included is space for noontime meals and “meals on wheels” delivery provided by Tri-Valley Elder Services.

On December 1, 2014, a contract with Tri-Valley Elder Services for a Supportive Housing Program was signed. The program will provide Howe village residents with 24 hour homemaker/personal care staffing, thereby allowing them to live independently while having access to the support they need.

The Housing Authority opened Project 667-3 on 4/1/1989 known as “Depot Village” which is located at 40 Wall Street. The Project consists of twenty-four one bedroom elderly and handicapped units; two separate congregate housing units, one six bedroom unit and one four bedroom unit. The congregate units are managed by Tri-Valley Elder Services and have private bedrooms with shared facilities for kitchen and living room use. Also included is commercial space, which is currently vacant.

Project 689-1 was opened in January 1988 at 77 Maple Street. There are (2) two separate buildings with (4) four bedrooms in each unit. The buildings are currently leased and operated by the Glavin Center to provide housing & services for handicapped individuals. Project 705-1 was opened on 4/1/1989 on Lloyd Dyer Drive. There are (4) four duplexes for (8) eight families, including one handicapped unit.

The Housing Authority administers two rental assistance programs: the (MRVP) Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program) formerly known as the 707 Program for low-income families currently has 5 units leased in the Spencer area. The other Program known as the (AHVP) Alternative Housing Voucher Program for non-elderly disabled applicants currently has 48 one-bedroom units leased in the state of Massachusetts.

Several projects were completed during 2015, including roofing, rotted sills, electrical panels, and health & safety repairs to all sites. Ongoing projects are slated for 2016.

The Housing Authority will continue to strive to provide safe and affordable housing to meet the elderly/handicapped and family needs of our area. We also serve as an informational & resource contact for services in the area.

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## PARKING CLERK

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Please be advised that the annual Town-wide Winter Parking Ban is in effect from November 1<sup>st</sup> at 12:01 a.m. and continues through April 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 a.m. Violators of the winter parking ban are subject to a \$20.00 fine

Kurt Nordquist,  
Parking Clerk

### **NO PARKING ON EITHER SIDE OF THE STREET:**

Adams Street	Clark Street	Highland Street	Route 31 North
Chestnut Street	Elm Street	Main Street	Route 31 South
Church Street	Hastings Road	Maple Street	Sampson Street
(Between Maple & Mechanic)	High Street	Mechanic Street	Smithville Road
			Water Street

### **PARKING ALLOWED ON ODD NUMBERED SIDE OF THE STREET ONLY:**

Bell Street	Grant Street	McDonald Street	Franklin Street
Lincoln Street	School Street	Summit Street (#3 to #27)	

### **PARKING ALLOWED ON EVEN NUMBERED SIDE OF THE STREET ONLY:**

South Street	North Street (Between Main & Powers)	Summit Street (Main to #8)
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### **STREETS WITH SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS:**

Cherry Street (From Mechanic to Maple) Parking allowed on the even numbered side of the street only.

Wall Street: Parking is allowed on the odd numbered side of the street from Mechanic to the beginning of the FlexCon Building.

Earley Street: Parking is allowed on the odd numbered side of the street from Chestnut to Church Street.

Temple Street: Parking is allowed on the odd numbered side of the street from Chestnut to Church Street.

### **ALL OTHER STREETS:**

No parking is allowed on the odd numbered side of the street, with the exception of those streets specifically named above where parking is allowed on the odd numbered side of the street.

No parking is allowed on sidewalks.

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## POLICE DEPARTMENT

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The Spencer Police Department continues to conduct policing on a proactive basis. In today's society, Police Officers can no longer just react to crime. They must instead, respond to the wide variety of issues and problems impacting the fear of crime and quality of life in our community.

The Spencer Police Department continues to participate in the Central Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council, which allows access to specialized assets including a SWAT Team along with Motorcycle and Collision Reconstruction Units. The Spencer Police Department currently has one Officer assigned to the Collision Reconstruction Team.

The Spencer Police Department conducts a variety of community outreach programs, including the deployment of our speed radar dolly, the installation and inspection of child safety seats, the performance of residential and commercial security surveys, and the facilitation of the Officer Phil Child Safety Program at the Wire Village School.

The Spencer Police Department maintains affiliation with the following organizations: Worcester County Breaking and Entering Task Force, Worcester County Fraudulent Check Association, Street Violence Prevention Group, Tri-Valley Elder Task Force and the Massachusetts Financial Crimes Task Force.

Continued and comprehensive training of all Spencer Police Department personnel is of paramount importance in the areas of law enforcement and public safety. On an annual basis, Officers attend Firearms Qualification and Proficiency training. In addition Officers and Dispatchers participated in an internet based in-service training program provided by the Massachusetts Police Institute in accordance with standards promulgated by the Massachusetts Police Training Committee and State 911 Department.

What was new in 2015? The Police Department participated in a regional gun buy-back program. In addition, we have made available kiosks for the public disposal of unwanted pharmaceuticals and used syringes.

There were several personnel changes in 2015, Sgt. John Agnew, Dispatcher Donna Anderson and Animal Control Officers Carol & Peter Gaucher all retired after distinguished careers. Officer David Sullivan left to join the Grafton Police Department and was replaced by Peter Levesque of the Monson Police Department. Officer Norman Hodgerney was promoted to Sergeant. Joelyn Durgin and Lynne Porretti were hired as Animal Control & Inspection Officer and Alternate respectively.

Whenever possible the Spencer Police Department makes application for Federal and State grants. Grants are important, as they allow a community to address issues that may be beyond their financial resources. This year the Spencer Police Department was awarded a variety of grants, including: \$10,000 from the State 911 Department for training, \$36,280 from the State 911 Department for overtime, \$7,500 from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security for traffic enforcement, \$1,500 from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security for Child Safety Seats, \$95,000 (13 Towns) from the Department of Justice for Criminal Investigations.

In closing, I wish to thank the members of the Spencer Police Department for their dedication and support. I also wish to thank the Town Administrator, Board of Selectmen, along with all other Town

Officials, Boards and Departments for their assistance in providing the citizens of Spencer with exceptional public services.

David B. Darrin,  
Chief of Police

## **ACTIVITY REPORT**

### **ARRESTS:**

Murder	0
Rape	1
Armed Robbery	2
Unarmed Robbery	0
Assault & Battery	22
Assault w/Dangerous Weapon	20
Burglary	9
Larceny	29
Motor Vehicle Theft	1
Vandalism	13
Arson	0
Domestic A&B	65
Warrants	95
209A/HPO Violation	14
Misdemeanor – Miscellaneous	35
Felony – Miscellaneous	10
Motor Vehicle – Miscellaneous	52
Minor in Possession of Alcohol	13
Possession of Drugs	9
Distribution of Drugs	4
Disorderly Conduct	40
Protective Custody	44
OUI – Alcohol/Drugs	21
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>499</b>

### **OFFENSES**

Murder	0
Rape	2
Robbery	1
Assault	53
Burglary	28
Larceny	88
Motor Vehicle Theft	7
Vandalism	96
<b>Total</b>	<b>375</b>

### **SELECT CALLS**

Accidents	490
911 Calls	2393
Medical Calls	1569
Fire Assists	272

Alarm Response	559
Detain Prisoners for Others	82
Disturbances – General	425
Disturbances – Domestic	85

#### **CALLS BY SHIFT:**

11p-7a	4430
7a-3p	10493
3p-11a	8485
<b>Total</b>	<b>23408</b>

#### **ANIMAL CONTROL:**

Calls	885
Impounds	35
Adoptions	11
Bylaw Violations	36

#### **CITATIONS**

Civil Infractions	103
Criminal	57
Warning	225
Arrest	35
Parking	329
Bylaw – Police	73
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>822</b>

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## RICHARD SUGDEN LIBRARY

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The Richard Sugden Library enriches the life of the community by providing opportunities to learn, connect, enjoy and discover. The Trustees and Staff work together to respond to our community's evolving needs and the changing nature of library services to remain relevant and vital to the public. The library is a significant resource and advocate for youth as they develop from birth to thoughtful inheritors of our community. The library has a special mission to promote and support literacy and to foster a love of reading in people of all ages. Library budget and program planning is based on the Richard Sugden Library *Long Range Plan, 2014-2019*.

The library is open Mondays 10:00-7:00; Tuesdays 10:00-5:00; Wednesdays 10:00-5:00 and Thursday 10:00-7:00. These hours became effective in July 2014 and are below the minimum state standards of forty hours per week. This has meant limited access to the library for the public and reduced the hours our community meeting rooms are available.

The library houses a collection of over 52,000 items including books, DVDs, audiobooks, magazines, and unique local history materials. The collection also includes a growing list of online resources such as databases for research, language learning, and entertainment as well as popular e-books, audiobooks, and movies through the Overdrive system. New this year, patrons also have free access to Commonwealth e-books Collections. Staff assisted an increasing number of patrons learning to download books, audiobooks, and movies onto Kindles, Nooks, i-Pads and mobile devices. The library is a full circulating member of C/W MARS, using the Evergreen open source circulation system, which allows patrons to access more than 300 libraries in Massachusetts and beyond through our popular "patron holds" system as well as the new Commonwealth Catalog. This allows any cardholder at the library, workplace, school, or home to order materials for delivery at our library, renew books, and create reading lists. The library website at [www.spencerpubliclibrary.org](http://www.spencerpubliclibrary.org) is heavily used for access to our catalog, program registration, free databases such as Ancestry and Mango Languages, library announcements, and community information.

An essential service provided by the library is Internet access, through our library computers or our twenty-four hour open WiFi system. Area residents depend on this access for job searching, assistance programs, email, and education. Most libraries are thriving because they are the only source of free Internet access and expertise for hundreds of area residents.

We were able to offer more programs this year including our participation in the state-wide Summer Reading Program. A popular new offering was our Telescope Lending Program. The Orion StarBlaster telescope is available for three week loans. It was donated by Lincoln Stamp and Coin in memory of Susan E. Root and support and training is provided by the Aldrich Astronomical Society. Adult programs included Coffee House music programs, local author visits, and courses on computers, meditation, pressed flower crafts, and local history. Teen drop in programs were available on a limited basis. The library also was awarded a grant through UMass Boston to sponsor a Massachusetts Memories Road Show town-wide event scheduled for spring of 2016.

### Children's Library

From January through December, the Children's Room offered free programs that served children from eighteen months to sixth grade. Throughout the year there were weekly morning Early Childhood



Programs for toddlers and preschoolers.

On two afternoons per month there were themed programs for school aged students. These programs brought to life science, math, engineering, and the arts with a book or two on the topic as well as fun activities. Every Thursday volunteers from American Poodles At Work, Inc. bring therapy dogs for kids to read to. Reading to a dog has been shown to boost children's reading skills by providing a nonjudgmental listener and furry friend.

In late March the Children's librarians visit the Kindergarten to read some stories and invite the children and their families to attend Kindergarten Open House at the library. This family night includes refreshments, a special grant funded performance, and the opportunity to sign up for library cards.

In the summer the library makes available multiple copies of the school system's required summer reading books. These were conveniently on display by grade. The national library summer reading theme was "Every Hero Has a Story". We had six weeks of programs, with super heroes, animal, environmental and kid heroes.

Grants and donations allowed us to host a reptile program by the Museum of Science, the Yankee Doodle Magic Show (with American heroes), and the final event, an interactive theater production. These special events were made possible with help from the Spencer Savings Bank, the Spencer Cultural Council, the Friends of the Library, and local businesses. In the spirit of this year's theme, Spencer Savings Bank agreed to donate to Save the Children if our readers met the 1,000 book reading goal – which they almost doubled.

In July we were notified that we had been awarded a LSTA Full Steam Ahead grant by the Institute for Museum and Library Services. This gave us \$7,500 for programs, materials and equipment to enable hands-on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) exploration for local preschoolers. The grant period began in October and will continue into next September. Part of the grant is being used to make an outdoor and indoor Discovery Zone for preschoolers –and older. STEAM kits for take home exploration will be available for families.

The children's room is a friendly, social place for families to learn new skills and practice familiar ones. We provide a nurturing space for early reading, creative play and fine motor skills with our puppet theater, dollhouse, blocks, puzzles, and manipulatives as well as our new STEAM materials. The children's room staff enjoys connecting kids of all ages with good books and online resources, movies and CD's.

The library enjoys the services of many talented volunteers, Senior Program workers, student interns, and Project ABLE participants. Over 1500 hours were donated last year by volunteers who processed books, helped with programs, maintained the popular coupon files, cataloged local history materials, and maintained our grounds. The Friends of the Richard Sugden Library sponsored their annual Book Sale in May and supported the library with funding for programs, museum passes, and furnishings.

Our elected Trustees were Lynn Dobson, Chair, Mary Anne Slack, and Maryanne Gleason. The Library Trustees and Staff are grateful for the continued support of the Town Departments, library users and supporters, local businesses, the Friends of the Library, the Spencer Cultural Council, and hard-working volunteers who keep our library at the heart of the community.

Mary Baker-Wood,  
Library Director

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## SEWER DEPARTMENT

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The Spencer Wastewater Treatment Plant is permitted for 1,080,000 gallons per day, but also has an annual average maximum influent flow of 860,000 gallons per day. Exceeding the maximum influent flow can trigger treatment plant expansion and/or collection system inflow & infiltration repairs. Our yearly average influent flow was 660,000 gallons per day.

Revenues for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015 were:

Sewer Fees	\$ 894,313.28
Connection Fees	\$ 1,650.00
Other Department Revenue	\$ 348,089.11
Enterprise Fund Earnings	<u>\$ 5,725.53</u>
Total Revenue Collected	\$1,249,777.92

Total FY2015 expenses were \$2,435,157.16. Capital expenses of \$21,248.05 were for new lawn equipment and process control (U.V., Aeration). Design services for the Sewer Systems Upgrades totaled \$72,553.78. Debt service costs were \$281,712.50 and retained earnings certified by MassDOR was \$284,172.00.

Nuwater Inc. completed our Sewer Systems Upgrade on 8/5/15 at a cost of \$1,321,583.95. The upgrade consisted of new aeration blowers, controls and generator; a new final clarifier drive assembly, baffles, weirs and controls, grit tank stop gate replacement, electrical demo work and replacement of the Meadow Road Pump Station including a new generator.

The Board of Sewer Commissioners and staff wish to thank the residents for their continued support and understanding; and town departments, boards and committees for their assistance and cooperation during the past year.

James T. LaPlante Jr.  
Superintendent

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## **TREE WARDEN**

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I hereby submit my annual report for 2015.

I removed 10 hazardous trees and also pruned and up-branched 12 trees.

National Grid removed 3 hazardous trees that were a danger to their wires.

The Highway Department has started a highway improvement project on Charlton Road ( RT. 31S )which required a large number of trees to be removed. The trees were posted and hearings were held. I assisted with the removal of said trees.

I've been asked to assist Parks & Recreation with work at Prouty Park and Luther Hill Park.

I look forward to helping in any way I can.

Ray Holmes  
Tree Warden

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## VETERANS' SERVICES

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The Veterans Services Office is located in the Town Hall on Main St. The Office is open on Mondays and Tuesdays from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm and on Wednesdays from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Walk-ins are welcome, however appointments are preferred.

The Spencer Veterans Services Department works with both the Massachusetts Department of Veterans' Services and the Federal Department of Veterans Affairs, (VA) in assisting all eligible veterans and their families who find themselves in need of services, e.g. financial, housing, medical, employment or assistance with funeral expenses.

Additionally, this Office is available to all Veterans who have questions about Veterans' disability, or those who may need information about VA funded counseling centers. Education and career counseling. The Town of Spencer has a large veteran population representing every conflict covering the history of our nation. The Rotunda in Town Hall contains the names of many of these Veterans, and while the present conflicts have wound down somewhat, the sons and daughters of Spencer continue to this day to enlist and serve our great country.

The residents of Spencer have always honored the sacrifices of our neighbors who have served in the military and have been generous in the assistance they have provided when they come home. The gratitude and appreciation felt by our veterans for that assistance is expressed to me every day by them, and I accept this on behalf of the people of Spencer. And, on behalf of the people of Spencer, I express our collective gratitude to them for their honorable service.

As the Veterans' Services Officer for the Town Of Spencer, I am honored and proud to be here to meet with and assist all of the town's veterans as needs develop or to answer questions relating to benefits they have earned. You can reach me at 508-885-7500 X115, or email [TGagnon@spencerma.gov](mailto:TGagnon@spencerma.gov).

Timothy Gagnon,  
Veterans' Services Officer

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**UTILITIES & FACILITIES  
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT  
WATER DEPARTMENT  
TRANSFER STATION**

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**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

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**Highway Department** (website: [http://www.spencerma.gov/Pages/SpencerMA\\_Highway/index](http://www.spencerma.gov/Pages/SpencerMA_Highway/index))

Spencer has over 125 miles of roadways. At current staffing this equates to over 30 lane miles per highway staff person to maintain and care for our roads. In addition to maintaining public roads the Highway Department is responsible for all Town owned buildings, public areas, parks and recreational facilities and many other properties the maintenance of which includes grounds/landscape maintenance, plowing, roadside mowing and brush cutting, tree and limb cleanup, patching, routine maintenance and repairs, street sweeping, catch basin and drainage system maintenance, repairs and cleaning. In addition to these your highway staff is heavily involved in constructing and upgrading closed and open country drainage systems, replacing failed culverts, aging and damaged bridge repairs, storm response and addressing numerous other infrastructure needs. As a result of budget reductions we had to reduce permanent staffing and are now down to 9 full time dedicated highway men. Much needed new equipment purchases and needed capital expenditures were also postponed in 2015 due to budget constraints.

The good news is Spencer Highway employees are dedicated, experienced, highly trained employees committed to getting the job done. Even with budget constraints we were able to have our existing loader receive refurbishment and put it back into service. We also acquired a much needed equipment trailer for our grounds maintenance program crews. The staff working for the Spencer Highway Department is doing their best to keep up with the numerous duties and responsibilities for the residents of Spencer. And we appreciate your understanding and patience with the inevitable delays such as longer times to complete lengthened plow routes which result from the reduced staffing levels.

However, because of the aged and deteriorated conditions of the Town's infrastructure current reduced budgets are not sustainable and in the long run will cost each and every taxpayer much more for delays in necessary maintenance, repairs and reconstruction. In order to better keep up with necessary repairs to our aging infrastructure it is imperative that future budgets include an increase in the Town's operating budget to restore at least two lost Highway Department positions, expand existing operations budgets to at least cover the cost of inflation and include capital expenditures for new equipment, refurbishments and regular annual maintenance of existing infrastructure and equipment.

**Spencer Construction Updates Email List**

If you wish to be on our construction project status and updates email update list please send an email requesting to be placed on the Spencer Construction updates list to [styler@spencerma.gov](mailto:styler@spencerma.gov). Please include "*Spencer Construction Updates*" in your email subject line. This office provides the most up to date notices using our construction updates email list. The majority of our larger road and infrastructure (i.e.,

water and sewer) construction project updates will be made electronically using this email list. We also try to provide advanced notification of other utility projects (i.e., National Grid Gas) whenever possible.

### **Downtown Revitalization – Main Street Reconstruction Project**

This project is currently scheduled to be part of the 2016 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Massachusetts Central Region. That means if all continues on schedule the Downtown Revitalization Main Street project will be advertised for construction prior to September 30, 2016 and should begin full-time construction operations no later than the spring of 2017. The Town of Spencer just received the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) certificate from FHWA and MassDOT in December 2015, which allows us to move forward to 100% design and to obtain necessary right-of-way (ROW) acquisitions.

The Town is responsible for funding and administering the design of the project as well as all necessary right-of-way (ROW) acquisitions. We are beginning the process of obtaining the necessary right-of-way (ROW) acquisitions and related construction easements and right-of-entry (ROE) documents necessary to advertise the project for construction. It is critical that the acquisition of ROW be completed as soon as possible. In most cases we will merely be seeking Certificates of Donation and/or Right of Entry (ROE) Agreements where relatively minor construction activities and/or the reconstruction of existing sidewalks cross over adjoining property lines. Permission from all abutting property owners to touch upon or enter onto their respective properties to complete the necessary improvements. Please note, the Certificates of Donation and/or Right of Entry (ROE) Agreement does not involve the acquisition any property, it is merely giving the contractor the authorization to work on a small section of the frontage of each property where relatively minor construction activities and/or the reconstruction of existing sidewalks is occurring, typically.

In cases where Certificates of Donation and/or Right of Entry (ROE) Agreements are being requested the project impacts are minor and merely involve the reconstruction and improvement of existing sidewalks and related pedestrian facilities (i.e., ramps, curbing, etc.), therefore, the Town will be requesting that the Right of Entry (ROE) Agreements be provided as civic donations. All Right of Entry (ROE) Agreements are temporary and for the purposes of construction only and will therefore expire after the project has been completed. The right-of-way (ROW) acquisition process is further explained in the Federal Aid Acquisition Guide for Property Owners and will be provided to all abutting property owners when they are contacted by the Town of Spencer and is available from the following link:

[http://www.spencerma.gov/Pages/SpencerMA\\_Highway/FederalAidGuideforPropertyOwners.pdf](http://www.spencerma.gov/Pages/SpencerMA_Highway/FederalAidGuideforPropertyOwners.pdf)

For further information about the project including the latest 75% Design documents and the right-of-way (ROW) acquisition process please refer to the links provided below. As always the Spencer Utilities and Facilities Department is available to answer any questions or concerns regarding the scope and intent of the project or how any abutting property may be affected by the reconstruction improvements.

Links to the plans, hearing/meetings minutes, documents and reports are available on the Town web site at [http://www.spencerma.gov/Pages/SpencerMA\\_Highway/mainstreetproject](http://www.spencerma.gov/Pages/SpencerMA_Highway/mainstreetproject) or look for the “Main Street Project” link under “Current Projects” on the [www.spencerma.gov](http://www.spencerma.gov) home or on the Highway Department web page by clicking on the “Main Street Project Page” link.

The Main Street project will reconstruct and revitalize downtown Spencer and will include roadway resurfacing; traffic and signal coordination improvements; bicycle accommodations; pedestrian sidewalk reconstruction inclusive of all necessary handicap accessibility upgrades, ramps and crosswalks; streetscape enhancements; and utility systems infrastructure (water and sewer) upgrades. The total

estimated construction cost for this project is \$3.6 million dollars, to be paid by State/Federal Transportation funds.

The regional significance of the project has also been recognized by the Central Massachusetts Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Committee as evidenced by its programming for construction. Thus we have received acceptance from the regional public TIP process and are continuing to work with our designer and the project stakeholders on the downtown revitalization improvements for Main Street. Once construction starts it will take approximately 2 construction seasons to complete.

### **Roadway, Bridge and Sidewalk Projects Completed in 2015**

**Barclay Road Reclamation and Resurfacing** - In 2015 the entire segment of Barclay Road in Spencer was reclaimed and resurfaced. In addition the entire drainage system was replaced and 2 culverts, one beneath Barclay Road and the other beneath N. Spencer Road were also replaced and sedimentation forebays for water quality improvements were added. Barclay Road is essentially a brand new road that should last for 20-30 years or more if properly maintained beginning with crack sealing in approximately 5 - 10 years from now.

**Cherry Street Sidewalk Improvements** – Additional Cherry Street sidewalk improvements were completed in 2015 which consisted of approximately 300 feet of new sidewalk on the southerly side of Cherry Street approximately from Linden Street to Monticello Drive. Our plan is to continue improving sidewalk conditions on Cherry Street in the years following the reconstruction of Main Street where we will be able to recycle the existing granite curb from Main Street to Cherry Street and other locations.

**Greenville Street Structural Repairs and Patching** – In 2015 repairs were made along the entire length of Greenville Street to prolong its life and improve drivability. The areas selected for repair were locations where severe rutting and alligator cracking had occurred indicating that the roadway sub-base material had lost its ability to perform structurally. At these locations the existing failed roadway sub-base was completely removed and replaced with new gravel sub-base materials prior to patching. The objective of these less costly repairs was to save as much of the road structure as possible for less costly roadway resurfacing within the next few years, which will prevent severe deterioration like what has occurred on Charlton Road (Route 31). In addition, we obtained necessary easements and completed the design and permitting to install a new cross culvert at a current icing concern location, not far from the power line crossing, on the southerly section of Greenville Street. Subject to available funding we hope to complete the drainage (ice prevention) project during the summer of 2016 or 2017. Reshaping of the Greenville Street roadside drainage swales was completed in 2013 and has made a big improvement to alleviating other past icing problems.

**Meadow Road Patch Repairs and Intersection Resurfacing** - In 2015 spot patch repairs were made on Meadow Road and the intersections with Smithville Road and N. Spencer Road were resurfaced to alleviate the most severe potholing areas and to improve drivability.

**N. Spencer Road (Route 31) Patch Repairs and Intersection Resurfacing** - In 2015 spot patch repairs were made on N. Spencer Road (Route 31) at 3 locations and at the intersection with Thompson Pond Road. In addition, the severely rutted section of Route 31 northbound from Barclay Road to the top of the hill was filled and levelled to alleviate a potentially hazardous situation and improve drivability.

**Crack Sealing Roadway Maintenance** – Due to contractor conflicts and unavailability our planned 2014 crack sealing program had to be delayed to 2015. In 2015 we completed the work planned for 2014 and

combined it with our planned 2015 crack sealing work. Crack sealing in 2015 was completed on S. Spencer Road, Howe Road and Cranberry Meadow Road. Crack sealing is an important part of our ongoing roadway maintenance program that we will be performing again in 2016. Please drive alert and safe around all road crews.

### **Drainage Improvements and Culvert Replacement Projects Completed in 2015**

The following roadway drainage improvements and failed culvert replacement projects were completed in 2015. These projects were completed by the Town of Spencer Highway Department staff at a tremendous overall savings to the taxpayer.

1. Charlton Road perennial stream failed culvert replacement just north of Howe Road.
2. New culvert installed on Northwest Road to alleviate an existing icing issue.
3. Existing culvert replacement on S. Spencer Rd. (Near Spencer-East Brookfield Town Line.)
4. N. Spencer Road (Route 31) Drainage Improvements (Near #126)

### **Other Proposed Culvert Replacements and Drainage Improvement Projects**

Following in this section is a list of additional culvert replacements and drainage improvement projects that have been permitted for replacement. Due to Town budget cuts and cuts in Highway staffing over the past few years we are not able to address as many culvert replacements or drainage improvement projects ourselves resulting in 3 times or more higher in total costs to publically advertise and hire a MassDOT prequalified contractor to do that work instead of Town forces. Therefore, the culvert replacements we are able to do cost significantly more and thus we cannot do as many in a construction season. This problem is going to exacerbate in the upcoming years, therefore, it is critical that the Town increase Highway staff levels and budget for good fiscal stewardship of taxpayer monies and to better maximize the value received from each dollar spent. The following culvert replacement projects are ready for construction in 2016 and beyond and will all be replaced as soon as possible subject to need, urgency, available funding and manpower. Please watch for construction notices so that you can be aware of delays or detours in advance. In addition to the list below we have many other places when similar work is needed, however, the previously described budget constraints and staff reductions over the past few years greatly limits our ability to perform and complete important project like this in-house since we must keep up with many other routine responsibilities first. It should be noted the following is merely a list of identified concerns. Given the ages of our culvert inventory the actual needs for culvert replacements is likely 3-4 times or more greater than the list below, therefore, we anticipate other culvert failures or emergency replacements to be a matter of routine and that many other roadway, sidewalk, drainage and other concerns will be left as-is until we are able to address them.

1. Replace existing culvert on Clark Rd. (near Borkum Rd)
2. Replace and extend drainage outfall pipe on Lincoln St.
3. Greenville Street Drainage Improvements (Near #218 and #219)
4. Replace existing culvert on Clark Rd. (near Chickering Rd)
5. Replace existing culvert on R Jones Rd. (near 63 R Jones Rd)
6. Replace existing culvert on Tom Casey Rd.
7. Chickering Road Drainage Repairs to alleviate icing issues (Near #61)



### **Mechanic Street Improvements Included Under CDBG Grant Application**

As part of our Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program annual grant application the Town received grant award funding assistance for the construction of roadway and sidewalk improvements on Mechanic Street, from Main Street to Chestnut Street. A majority of the construction was completed in 2015. The final top course of the roadway will be placed during the Spring-Summer 2016. The next step of our current CDBG grant includes funding to design Chestnut Street improvements. A grant application to fund construction for the Chestnut Street project will be submitted in 2016 with the goal of realizing construction in 2017 or 2018. Contact Chris Dunphy at the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (413) 781-6045 for further information regarding CDBG projects.

### **Pavement Management Plan (PMP)**

Spencer has maintained a pavement conditions index used for roadway project management since 2009. This system has been an important part of our decision making due to the limited resources Spencer has to invest in our roadway infrastructure. Our most recent Pavement Management (PM) Program database update was completed in January 2015, just prior to the many record setting winter storms. On 3/16/2015 the updated PM report and recommendations were presented to the Spencer Board of Selectmen.

The PM findings show that Spencer's roadway infrastructure conditions have been declining for some time. And that Spencer's roadway network conditions are now in a state of rapid and steep decline due to many years of inadequate funding and investments. In order to get this situation back under control a substantial re-investment in Spencer's roadway infrastructure is necessary. It is anticipated that in the near future a local transportation funding bond will be proposed to keep this situation from spiraling out of control which if allowed to continue would double or triple our cost to restore our roadway infrastructure assets in just a few years. This past winter has been particularly harsh and has worsened roadway base and surface conditions considerable since the January 2015 PM update.

### **Spencer Roads FMPC Capital Improvement Project**

Please go to the following Financial Management Planning Committee (FMPC) web page for further information regarding the Spencer Roads FMPC Capital Improvement Project.

[http://www.spencerma.gov/Pages/SpencerMA\\_Bcomm/FinancialManagement/index](http://www.spencerma.gov/Pages/SpencerMA_Bcomm/FinancialManagement/index)

As we are sure many of you are well aware we have numerous streets, roads and sidewalks throughout Spencer in a state of disrepair. These include local roads, private ways and even major collectors and arterials such as Paxton Road and Charlton Road (Route 31). The existing available roadway budget is incapable of addressing these conditions. We have been working with the Spencer Financial Management Planning Committee (FMPC) to identify funding needs for a Pavement Management Plan (PMP) that will restore the overall condition of our public roads to a more manageable state of repair. Unfortunately those plans stalled a few years ago due to school budget issues. In 2015 and 2016 we have and will hold additional FMPC public finance and roadway conditions improvement project planning meetings to address these roadway concerns and financial funding needs.

Hopefully this effort will lead to a funding article to be presented for citizen vote and approval at a near future Town meeting. Your support and participation at these meetings and for the forthcoming Pavement Management Plan (PMP) is needed and much appreciated. Spencer's current Pavement Management Plan is online via the ([spencerma.gov](http://spencerma.gov)) website home page; under Current Projects select the "Spencer Roads FMPC Capital Improvement Project" link. An updated PMP report has been posted along with further information and details regarding the in the *Spencer Roads FMPC Capital Improvement Project*. The PMP is a comprehensive study of our public roadway infrastructure by Fay, Spofford, & Thorndike (FST)

includes a history of expenditures, a list of roadways and their present condition, as well as several approaches to improve their overall condition. This important document, updated as frequently as possible, is used to develop our planned highway improvements to ensure effective and efficient use of your tax dollar.

### **Proposed Lincoln Street Drainage Improvements**

As many of you know Lincoln Street was reconstructed in 2012. However, the final step of that roadway project, replacing the existing deteriorated drainage outlet pipe, remains to be completed. In 2015 we completed the permitting and right-of-way needed to replace the existing drainage pipe and outfall on lower Lincoln Street. The Highway Department plans to complete that work in 2016. All work will be off the road; therefore, there will be little to no disturbance to the public and no disturbance to the new roadway at all.

### **Charlton Road (Route 31) Reconstruction and Resurfacing**

All of Route 31 (Charlton Road, Maple Street, small downtown section of Main Street/Route 9, Pleasant Street and N. Spencer Road) is owned by the Town of Spencer. As such the Town of Spencer is fully responsible for all maintenance, repair and/or reconstruction cost for Route 31. That being said it is eligible for Federal and State funding assistance through the very competitive Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The Town of Spencer has been working with local elected state legislative officials and MassDOT since the 1999 when it was first approved by the Project Review Committee as being eligible for State and Federal TIP funding. Since that time this roadway has encountered many roadblocks to realizing that funding because of the competitive nature of the TIP process and the high costs that the project would incur to be reconstructed to meet all TIP/AASHTO criteria. We have seen transportation bond bill earmarks and other potential funding commitments fall through over the past 15 or so years but we have continued with our efforts to garner the necessary assistance to reconstruct Charlton Road to the state of good repair. In 2014 a comprehensive Roadway Safety Audit (RSA) was completed for Charlton Road, which provided recommendations for safety improvements. In 2015 the Town of Spencer began a program to start addressing the recommended safety improvements and to demonstrate that the Town was committed to this project. In 2015 the Town began a program to remove trees from the driver recovery zone, a key recommendation of the RSA. This tree removal program will continue in 2016. In addition, in 2015 we let a contract to replace 6 failed or failing cross culverts beneath the roadway. Town forces also replaced a failed culvert just north of Howe Road. We are planning for the replacement of 7 more cross culverts in 2016. These current efforts combined with other critical roadway infrastructure needs have exhausted and will exhaust all of our roadway annual Chapter 90 funds (approx. \$450k - \$500k per year). Above and beyond all of those costs the least costly alternative for reconstruction of Route 31 will cost an additional \$3.5 - \$4.0 million dollars (more than 7 times our total annual Ch. 90 road budget). It is easy to see that in order to repair this road a source for significant additional revenue has to be utilized. We are doing everything we can to get a firm commitment for the additional revenue needed. Therefore, this project is also included in the FMPC projects list in the event that we are not able to secure state or federal funding assistance.

### **Other Highway Department Project Planning for 2016**

Other important planned roadway and sidewalk improvement projects sidelined in 2014 due to insufficient funds are still on the planning table for the future include resurface all or portions of McDonald Street, Charron Street and Langevin Street and for sidewalk reconstruction and improvements at selected poor condition locations town wide subject to funding availability. Improvement projects will be developed and implemented in these locations as funding becomes available.

### **Snow & Ice Reminders**

The winter season in Spencer results in the significant accumulation of snow and ice on the ground. A reminder to homeowners that the Town of Spencer General By-Laws, (Article 6, section 3), Obstruction of Streets and Sidewalks states, *“No person shall place or cause to place in any of the public streets, sidewalks, or squares, any dirt, rubbish, wood, timber, snow or other material of any kind tending to obstruct the streets or sidewalks without written permission from the Highway Superintendent.”* Please keep in mind that our average snow plow route takes approximately 5 hours to complete in one direction only (up to 10 hours per route both directions/sides). Also, initial snow clearing operations focus on principal arterials and anti-slip treatments. A little bit of kindness, understanding and safe driving goes a long way. Help your neighbors and leave plenty of time to get to your destination. Please Drive Safely, Fasten Safety Belts, Stay Alert and Cautious at All Times.

### **Routine Roadside Maintenance**

We made significant progress on some of our routine roadside brush cutting and maintenance that had fallen behind in past seasons. Routine roadside brush cutting is a critical element for roadway maintenance and public safety. The Spencer Highway Department retains all rights to maintain the roadway layout for the good of public safety and users of the road including, but not limited to, roadside cutting and maintenance operations. The edges of roads must be kept clear of vegetation and plant growth for many reasons including driver line of site visibility, safety and to prevent pavement degradation. Also, this routine maintenance helps prevent the growth that can lead to power outages and other concerns from heavy wind and snow storms. All too often roadway abutters encroach upon Town own lands that are part of the roadway layout by installing shrubbery, trees, walls, gardens, flower beds, etc. In these instances where abutters have either knowingly or unknowingly encroached upon Town owned roadway layouts, it is standard policy that the Town as the owner of the roadway layout land that adjoins the paved surface, can remove or have the unlawful encroachments removed immediately as needed. At the very least the Town cannot be held responsible for any damage that might occur to unlawful or unauthorized encroachments onto Town owned land. It is, therefore, imperative that we preserve our rights and authority to maintain all portions of our roadway layouts and right-of-ways which typically extend well beyond the edge of pavement. Residents should keep in mind that any vegetative growth, poles, fences, structures, walls, etc. within the Town owned roadway layout and/or within 5-10 feet of the existing edge of roadway are at peril to be cut or removed at any time by our highway maintenance operations with no notification, restoration or mitigation of any kind required.

Steven J. Tyler, P.E.  
Utilities & Facilities Superintendent

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## WATER DEPARTMENT

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As described below the Spencer Water Department continues to improve its operations and infrastructure to comply with ever growing regulations and permitting requirements. The water treatment and supply industry is one of the most regulated public service industries. Lead by an outstanding Chief Water Operator and supported by 3 equally exceptional and dedicated licensed water treatment plant operators the Spencer Water Department is a model water treatment plant with exceptional operations and QA/QC capabilities for a facility of its size or even many times larger. Potable drinking water from the Spencer Water Department to the customer tap costs only \$0.01 per gallon (yes, just one penny per gallon) and is therefore still one of the absolute best deals in Town.

The Spencer Water Department is now literally seen as a leader and a quintessential model for other public water supply systems of comparable size or even much larger. This is evidenced in the recent article in the December 2013 issue of the New England Water Works Association (NEWWA) entitled “*Town of Spencer, Massachusetts Two-Zone Pressure System Project*” a completed copy of that article has been placed on the Spencer Water Department web page with permissions from the NEWWA. The NEWWA article has been posted on the Spencer website ([spencerma.gov](http://spencerma.gov)) under Water Department on the web page.

With the recent completion of major system upgrades we are now refocusing on efforts on the existing infrastructure with other planned system maintenance and upgrades such as replacing or upgrading aged or deficient water mains in advance of other planned roadway or development projects. The water utility infrastructure is literally a living system in its own way and must be maintained and cared for accordingly. The Spencer Water Department will continue to manage itself in the best interests of the Town and its water customers.

### **2015 Awards and Achievements by the Spencer Water Department and U&F Office**

As recognized by the Spencer Water Commissioners at their October 7th, 2015 meeting the Town of Spencer Water Department and Utilities and Facilities Office would like recognizes the outstanding performance of the Water Department and all staff as a whole for the following awards received in 2015.

Links to the Awards/Citations displayed at Utilities & Facilities Office, 3 Old Meadow Road can be found on the following web page: [http://www.spencerma.gov/pages/SpencerMA\\_News/I02259064](http://www.spencerma.gov/pages/SpencerMA_News/I02259064)

**Public Water Systems Award/2015 Water Conservation Award** presented to the Spencer Water Department by the Department of Environmental Protection’s Drinking Water Program for its outstanding performance. Recognized for conserving our drinking water to ensure we have enough water for future generations and to minimize impacts to our water resources, a major undertaking of a public water system.

**Governor’s Citation from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts** presented to the Spencer Water Department in Recognition of: “Dedicated service to maintaining a safe, abundant supply of clean water and in appreciation of Spencer’s commitment to protecting this valuable natural resource”.

**Official Citation from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts State Senate** presented to the Spencer Water Department in Recognition of: “Outstanding efforts and dedication to providing clean drinking water to the community”.

**Stormy Award** presented to Town of Spencer by the New England Stormwater Collaborative for the formation of the Central Massachusetts Regional Stormwater Coalition. **Recognition for: “Regional Collaboration for Enhanced Stormwater Program Efficiency”, Best Stormwater Idea in New England.** This award recognizes the Town’s commitment to improving water quality through the implementation of best practices for stormwater management.

**Transportation Planning Award from the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission** presented to Steven J. Tyler, P.E., as the “Regional Transportation Planner of the Year” in Recognition of outstanding contribution to the regional transportation planning process through sustained involvement by providing technical and practical feedback on a broad range of activities.

**Official Citation from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts State Senate** presented to Steven J. Tyler, P.E., in Recognition for: “Central MA Regional Planning Commission Award for Transportation Planning”.

**Master Roads Scholar Award** presented to Steven J. Tyler in Recognition for continued education and studies for the management and preservation of our highway, road and bridge network.

### **Water System-wide Leak Detection**

In an effort to keep our costs of annual unaccounted for water down (primarily attributed to unknown system leaks) we have instituted a bi-annual system-wide leak detection program. Undetected leaks in our water system are very expensive. As of June 2008, the American Water Works Association (AWWA) quotes the national average cost for pumping 1,000,000 gallons of water per year is \$1,767. Following is a list of results from our most recently conducted system-wide leak detections:

2009 Leak Detection performed by Prowler Water Conservation Systems:  
Estimated leakage – 27.86 (MGY) million gallons per year  
AWWA estimated annual savings - \$49,228

2010 Leak Detection performed by Prowler Water Conservation Systems:  
Estimated leakage – 11.40 (MGY) million gallons per year  
AWWA estimated annual savings – \$20,485

2011-12 Leak Detection performed by Prowler Water Conservation Systems:  
Results - No leaks Found.

2014 Leak Detection performed by Prowler Water Conservation Systems:  
Estimated leakage – 7.36 (MGY) million gallons per year  
AWWA estimated annual savings – \$15,014

Standard practice for our Water Department is to repair all leaks found during the leak detection program. As you can see we have had significantly less leakage over subsequent years resulting in significant annual savings (primarily in unrealized costs). As example later in 2013 Water Department Staff found and repaired two separate leaks of significant size which did result in considerable savings. Our next systemwide leak detection survey is currently ongoing and will be completed in early 2016.

### **MassDEP Mandates**

In 2015 the Water Department continued to act upon several mandates from the MassDEP which required additional operating and capital improvements. We began to address these matters in 2014 and will continue the efforts as needed going into 2016. The improvements include additional efforts to reduce unaccounted for water as well as costs to clean and restore the backwash lagoons on Meadow Road, increasing progress on our Capital Efficiency Plan (CEP) including replacing aged and problematic pipes and improving low water pressures on Paxton Road. Due to normal consumer price index materials and services inflation increases to our normal operating budget and the above mentioned added expenses and capital costs we holding public hearings regarding rate increases. See 2016 Water Rate Increase section below for further information.

### **Water Department Capital Efficiency Plan (CEP)**

The Water Department, with assistance from our outside contractor Tata & Howard, updated our Capital Efficiency Plan (CEP) in 2015. The CEP is what we use to plan for necessary infrastructure improvements in the years ahead. This report identifies, much like our Pavement Management Report does for our public roads, the status of our water distribution system and suggests a methodical prioritization plan for investing in future replacements based on sound evaluation criteria in order to maximize efficient use of rate payer's dollars. The following CEP projects were completed in 2015:

**Chestnut Street and Other Water Main Upgrades** - The existing Chestnut Street water main was upgraded/replaced in 2015. The water main upgrades included new water main trunklines and running new service connections from the new in-street main to each abutting property curb stop. In addition, we began analysis of the Paxton Road area to alleviate low water pressure areas per MassDEP mandates.

**Constructed Fire Department Training Site at Spencer Fairground Parking Lot** - In 2015 the Water Department completed a project to construct a fire training area at the Spencer Fairgrounds lower parking lot. This training site allows firefighters to practice with firefighting equipment without being connected to the public water supply. This benefits the CEP and the water rate payer by eliminating the stress that fire firefighting water flows can have on the water system for training and reducing the cost of lost treated potable water supply water, respectively. And the location is easy access and plenty of room for firefighters to train.

### **2016 Water Project Plans**

In 2016, the Water Department will continue progress on CEP projects. We will complete the Paxton Road water pressure upgrades at the locations identified by our 2015 study. A section of water main will be replaced on Earley Street. Also, water services on Main Street will be replaced within the downtown revitalization project limits (between Main St and Maple St) where needed. We also hope to replace the water main on Longview Drive in 2016 as well, subject to the completion of necessary survey and right-of-way by the residents of this private road.

### **2016 Water Rate Increase**

It has been nearly four (4) years since the last rate increase by the Spencer Water Department. During that time revenues have stayed the same, however, costs in all areas (i.e., energy, raw materials, equipment, piping, staff, etc.) have increased due to inflation. During that time the cost to complete the backlog of necessary CEP projects has also increased. Therefore, a water rate increase is overdue and necessary. In the spring of 2016 the Water Commission will hold public hearing to consider a rate increase in the 5-10% range for all water rate payers.

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## TRANSFER STATION

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The Spencer Transfer Station is the best value in Town for your waste disposal and recycling needs. And thanks to funding provided in part by a grant from the MassDEP our single-stream recycling compactors are up and running allowing you to put all our accepted recyclables into one compactor. Trash and recyclable separation and management just got a whole lot easier. It is important for everyone to understand and practice recycling and solid waste reduction to the greatest extent possible.

***Recycle Spencer!*** It is important for the environment and for each and every one of us now and for the future.

Do you like what is happening with your Utilities & Facilities Office including Water Department, Highway Department, Town Buildings/Properties and Transfer Station? We want to know. Get involved. Please address your concerns or words of praise to:

Utilities & Facilities Office  
Steven J. Tyler, P.E., Superintendent  
3 Old Meadow Road  
Spencer, MA 01562  
[styler@spencerma.gov](mailto:styler@spencerma.gov)

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**BAY PATH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**AUBURN/CHARLTON/DUDLEY**  
**NORTH BROOKFIELD/OXFORD/PAXTON**  
**RUTLAND/SOUTHBRIDGE/SPENCER/WEBSTER**

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Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School graduated a class of 260 students in June of 2015, and accepted a class of 326 freshmen in September of 2015. Our current enrollment has reached 1,189 students.

Of the 31 Spencer seniors who graduated, 25 are now gainfully employed in an occupation related to their training and 3 are now attending College. Currently, 143 students from Spencer are enrolled in one of our 21 vocational areas.

Twenty-six Spencer students are receiving extra services from our Special Education Department.

Whenever possible, we have continued our practice of utilizing our occupational programs to provide requested services to municipalities, non-profit organizations and residents from any of our ten district towns. During the 2014-2015 school year, our 21 vocational programs completed 1,024 work orders, of which, 47 were for residents of the Town of Spencer. Each school year, our construction trades work together to build a house, on a rotating basis, in one of our ten district towns. Last year's home was built in the town of Webster.

Our Hilltop Restaurant and Minuteman Shoppe are opened to the public Tuesday through Friday from 11:00am to 1:00pm. Our cosmetology program is also open to the general public. Appointments for cosmetology services must be made in advance by calling the school. Residents of the Bay Path district are encouraged to take advantage of the services provided by our students. These learning opportunities benefit not only the students but provide useful services at reasonable costs to in-district residents. We will continue this type of work whenever possible, keeping in mind that the projects must be of educational value for our students.

Our Evening School Program continues to serve the adult needs of our 10 town district, as well as an additional 20 surrounding towns. Our Spring and Fall programs had a combined enrollment of 1,219, in programs ranging from Business & Finance, Career/ Licensing; Computers; Cooking; Entertainment; Health & Fitness; Hobbies & Crafts; Home & Job; Language & Art; and Sports & Leisure. The program also offered a wide variety of over 400 online courses, including career certificate programs and courses to satisfy professional development requirements for teachers.

During Fiscal Year 2015, construction continued on the Bay Path addition/renovation project. Subsequently, on December 4, 2015, we celebrated our ribbon-cutting signifying the completion of our project on-time and under budget. The district expects to issue a small bond in 2016 to finalize the financing of the project once we receive the final reimbursement amount from MSBA. We are very pleased that low interest rates and construction budget savings resulted in assessments to the towns that are significantly lower than we projected in the summer of 2012. We thank the town for their support of our construction project and look forward to serving your students for many years in the future.

The Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District continues to provide excellent cooperation for our recruiting program and we are thankful for their efforts. I believe that they share our feeling that all students must be given the right, the information, and the opportunity to make an informed school choice.



We, at Bay Path, will continue to serve Spencer with the finest vocational education programs available for high school students and adults, and will, when at all possible, use our skills and facilities to further town projects as they add to our students' education.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John A. Lafleche".

John A. Lafleche  
Superintendent-Director

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## **SPENCER-EAST BROOKFIELD REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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### **FINANCIAL**

The final capital and operating FY16 Budget was set at \$23,832,058.61, a .64% increase over the FY15 Budget.

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Dr. Tracy Crowe continues to serve as Superintendent of Schools.
- The District has approximately 46 students that School Choice in. As of October 1<sup>st</sup> there were 1,296 Spencer students enrolled in the school district and 280 East Brookfield students.
- Grants continue to be written by district members bringing in extra funding for the schools.
- The After School Program began its 11<sup>th</sup> year and remains successful, as well as self-supporting.
- We continue to develop new special education programs that save the district money while educating these students locally in the least restrictive environment.
- Knox Trail Junior High School was renamed Knox Trail Middle School.
- Lake Street School was closed due to budget constraints and major improvements needed. Students were transferred to Wire Village School and East Brookfield Elementary. New grade configurations were made as follows: Wire Village – K-4, East Brookfield Elementary – PreK-6, and Knox Trail Middle School – 5-8.
- The following Administrative positions were filled in the 2015-2016 school year: District Treasurer, Director of Academic Affairs, Principal at David Prouty High School, Assistant Principal at David Prouty High School, Assistant Principal at Knox Trail Middle School, and Assistant Principal at Wire Village School.

### **SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

The May 2015 Election brought two new members to the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School Committee. Ms. Wendy Pelchat and Mr. Jim St. Peter were elected to three year terms for Spencer. Mr. Christopher King and Mr. Kurt Nordquist were thanked for their dedication and efforts while serving the towns of Spencer and East Brookfield. Mr. Kevin Hayes is the Chair and Mr. Michael Ethier is the Vice-Chair for the Committee.

Current School Committee members are: Kevin Hayes (Spencer), Heather Messier (East Brookfield), Vincent Cloutier (Spencer), Michael Ethier (East Brookfield), James St. Peter (Spencer), Angela Knapton (Spencer), and Wendy Pelchat (Spencer).

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## DAVID PROUTY HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2015

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Tyler James Abraham	Tyler Matthew Golden	Robert Daniel Orpilla
Madison Jenna Allen	Khaalid Akil Ajani Grant-Hart	Brian Daniel Paradis
Jacob Philip Arsenault	Aaron Michael Halbedel	Cody Brian Paradis
Yvonne Bethany Banyai	Samantha Lynn Holland	Karisa Lin Paradis
Shayne Michael Barton	Taylor Morgan Houston+*	Jackson Snow Paul+*
Brandon Michael Benoit	Alexander James Hubbard	Kayla Yvonne Paulauskas
Jacob Braedon Berry	Natalie Elise Humphrey	Riley James Perchak
Anna Maria Bogdan+*	Danielle Elizabeth Huston+	Ashlyn Nicole Perro
Sarah Elizabeth Bousquet	Kristen Elizabeth Huston	Alec Robert Petruzzi
Ryan Christopher Bowen+*	Mercedes Marie Jerome	Peter John Petruzzi, Jr.
Denerik Dean Brousseau	Melissa Ann Johnson	Ashley Nicole Poirier
Michaela Alisha Brown+*	Riley Williams Johnston	Kayla Stephanie Prokopowich
Zachari Joseph Budano	Stanley Michael Kularski	Chantelle Lee Ricard
Lawrence Edward Carlberg III	Casey Renee Lacaire+*	Hanna Lynn Roy
Draven Christopher Casey	Benjamin James LaCroix	Steven Tyler Rutter
Nicholas Dean Chatzopoulos	Samuel Alexander LaCroix	Samuel Philip Shea*
Shawn Raymond Cote	Rachael Rose Lamothe	Allyson Olivia Shogren
Christopher Daniel Thomas Crockett-Sears	Gabrielle Megan LaPorte	Katherine Rose Shtudiner
Juliana Roy Croteau	Samantha Elizabeth LaPr+*	Tobias Keith Simonovitch
Nicole Renee Cummings+*	Joshua Richard Lavallee+*	Anthony Christopher Smith
Kristen Marie Curren	Lindsey Rose Leahy	Trevor Derek Spence
Hunter Monroe Deane	Jarod Douglass Louison	Degory Myles Standish
Miranda Lynn Daab	Terry Marcus Lytle*	Daniel Joseph Stevens
Alexander Michael Dacri	Haley Elizabeth MacDonald	Amanda Rose Stockman*
Tristan Richard-Martin Day	Arianna Bon Malakham	Isabella Ippolita Sullivan
Jacqueline Marie Dayutis*	Emily Rose Martin	Kyle Edward Tebo
Kristofer Anthony Doyle	Savannah Rae Mattei	Nathan Eli Tobin
Brendan Michael Ebol	Matthew Paul McNamara	Robbie Martin VanDyke+
Cameron John Fahey	Zachary Walker McNulty	Robert Austin-Mitchell Volesky
Lydia Madisyn Fahey	Katelynn Marie Miller	Caitlin Mary Watkins
Austin Timothy Fitman+*	Nicholas Hunter Miner	Emily Claire Wright+
Jamie Nicole Fontaine+*	Christopher Shawn Moore	Laura Ann Wyne
Erin Cassidy Gaudette+	Constance Christina Morgan-Poirier+	Philip Daniel Young
Lucas Paul Girouard	Adrian De Jesus Novas+	Miranda Lynn Zarr

\* Graduating with Honors; +National Honor Society

**Class Advisors:** Mrs. Mehringer and Mr. Deso

**President:** Jackson Snow Paul

**Vice President:** Isabella Ippolita Sullivan

**Secretary:** Erin Cassidy Gaudette

**Treasurer:** Joshua Richard Lavallee

**Historians:** Miranda Lynn Daab and Taylor Morgan Houston

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## COMMUNITY INFORMATION

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Annual Elections	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday in May
Annual Town Meetings	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday in May
Selectmen's Meetings	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Monday of month at 6:00 pm
Assessor's Meetings	As posted on website
Charitable Needs Commission	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday Sept. - June at 6:30 pm
Conservation Commission	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed. of month at 7:00 pm
Council on Aging	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of month at 6:00 pm
Finance Committee	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of month at 7:00 pm
Board of Health	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday of month at 6:30 pm
Historical Commission	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of month at 7:00 pm
Housing Authority	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday of month at 7:00 pm
Library Trustees	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday of month at 7:00 pm
Parks & Recreation Committee	As posted on website
Planning Board	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of month at 7:00 pm
Regional School Committee	See School District website
Sewer Commission	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of month at 5:00 pm
Veteran's Agent	By appointment
Water Commission	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday of month at 5:00 pm
ZBA	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays of month at 7:15 pm

**Town Meetings posted on Website Calendar at [www.spencerma.gov](http://www.spencerma.gov)**

**Transfer Stations Hours:** Wednesday & Saturday 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Town Offices are closed for the following holidays:** New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, Presidents Day, Patriot's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

### **RICHARD SUGDEN LIBRARY HOURS:**

Monday & Thursday:	10 a.m.to 7 p.m.
Tuesday & Wednesday	10 a.m.to 5 p.m.
Friday and Sunday:	Closed

### **DUE DATES:**

The following bills are paid at the Town Collector's Office:

Real Estate & Personal Taxes	Due Quarterly
Excise Taxes	Due 30 days after issuance
Water/Sewer Bills	Due Quarterly

The following bills are paid at the Town Clerk's Office:

Dog Licenses	Due April 1 <sup>st</sup> Late Fee after June 30 <sup>th</sup>
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The following bills are paid at the Town Assessor's Office:

List of Tangible Personal Property	Due March 1 <sup>st</sup>
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## **EMERGENCY INFORMATION**

POLICE – AMBULANCE – FIRE EMERGENCY - DIAL 911

## **NON-EMERGENCY INFORMATION**

POLICE 885-6333

AMBULANCE 885-4476

FIRE 885-3555

## **TOWN DIRECTORY:**

<b>Department/Office:</b>	<b>Services:</b>	<b>Telephone Number:</b>
<b>Administration</b>	Administrator	508 885-7500 x155
	Board of Selectmen	508 885-7500 x155
<b>Town Clerk</b>	Birth Certificates	508 885-7500 x150
	Death Certificates	508 885-7500 x150
	Dog Licenses	508 885-7500 x150
	Elections	508 885-7500 x150
	Marriage Licenses	508 885-7500 x150
	Voting & Registration	508 885-7500 x150
<b>Town Accountant</b>	Accounting	508 885-7500 x160
<b>Town Assessors</b>	Assessment	508 885-7500 x165
	House Numbering	508 885-7500 x165
<b>Town Treasurer/Collector</b>	Tax & Utility Collections	508 885-7500 x170
	Treasurer	508 885-7500 x170
<b>Inspectional &amp; Development Services</b>	Building Inspector	508 885-7500 x180
	Building Permits	508 885-7500 x180
	Conservation	508 885-7500 x180
	Health Matters	508 885-7500 x180
	Inspections: Plumbing, Sanitary, Wiring, Zoning	508 885-7500 x180
	Planning Board	508 885-7500 x180
	Zoning Board	508 885-7500 x180
<b>Veteran's Agent</b>		508 885-7500 x115
<b>Cultural Office</b>		508 885-7500 x187
<b>Historical Commission</b>		508 885-7500 x186
<b>Parks &amp; Recreation</b>		508 885-7500 x185
<b>Fire Department</b>	Burning Permits	508 885-3555
	Fire Chief	508 885-3555
	Oil Burner Permits	508 885-3555
	Civil Defense	508 885-3555
<b>Library (Richard Sugden Library)</b>		508 885-7513
<b>Police</b>	Dog Complaints	508 885-6333
	Police Chief	508 885-6333

<b>Transfer Station</b>		508 885-7539
<b>Utilities &amp; Facilities:</b>	Drainage	508 885-7525
	Highway	508 885-7525
	Street Maintenance, Snow Removal	508 885-7525
	Sewer	508 885-7525
	Water	508 885-7525
<b>Council on Aging</b>	Drop-in Center	508 885-7546
	Senior Citizens Matters	508 885-7546
<b>District Court</b>		508 885-6305
<b>Spencer Public Health Nurse</b>		508 885-7500 x180
<b>Fuel Assistance</b>	Worcester Community Action Council	508 754-1176 x110
<b>Housing Authority</b>		508 885-3904
<b>Post Office</b>		800 275-8777
<b>School Department</b>	Superintendent of Schools	508 885-8500
<b>Van Dispatcher</b>	Elder Bus	508 867-9941
<b>Welfare Office</b>	Southbridge	508 765-2400

**TTY Phone Numbers in the Town of Spencer:**

Town Hall: 508 885-7503  
Police Department: 508 885-2399  
Fire Department: 508 885-2732  
Utilities & Facilities: 508 885-7527

**Schools:**

District Office: 508 885-8500  
David Prouty High: 508 885-8505  
Knox Trail: 508 885-8550  
Wire Village: 508 885-8524

**2015 POPULATION: 10,169**